

STARS AND STRIPES®

Rangers' Rogers knows how to throw them

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Pitcher Kenny Rogers



14 U.S. soldiers wounded in Iraq mortar attack

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Cruising the dark side of Los Angeles

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Tom Cruise in "Collateral"

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Democratic Convention



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- **Voters wonder where Kerry stands**

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Longbows return home

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KEINO KURAYA LIEWER/Special to Stars and Stripes

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Sauer, left, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 George R. Kessler flew one of the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment's first 10 AH-64 Apache Longbow helicopters home to Illsheim Army Airfield, Germany, on Monday. The new unit has been training in the Longbow — an upgraded Apache — since the unit cased its colors in Illsheim in June 2003.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Missing jogger: The last day her co-workers saw her, Lori Hacking was heading home for the weekend after getting a phone call that left her stunned and sobbing.

Several colleagues said Hacking had been arranging for campus housing at the University of North Carolina medical school and that they believe the school was returning a call to say her husband, Mark Hacking, was not enrolled there, as he had told her.

At the time of her disappearance, the couple were packing to move from Salt Lake City to North Carolina. But after she vanished, police and family members learned that besides lying about being accepted to medical school, Mark Hacking had not even graduated from college.

9/11 illness report: A group of hazardous chemicals released into the air following the collapse of the World Trade Center in New York doesn't appear to be much of a cancer risk to local residents. A new report says the chemicals dissipated rapidly and any increase in the danger of cancer is very small.

A team led by Stephen Rappaport, of the University of North Carolina, studied 243 samples collected near Ground Zero, analyzing the amounts of nine chemicals known as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, which are known to cause cancer.

Gay marriage snub: A man who married his partner of 23 years after gay marriage was legalized in Massachusetts now is having trouble getting a new passport.

Donald Henneberger, formerly Donald Smith, recently received a letter from the National Passport Center in Portsmouth, N.H., denying his request for a name change on his passport. The center said it would not recognize a marriage license for a same-sex couple as proof of a name change.

The letter from the National Passport Center cites the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which states a marriage can only be between a man and a woman, and a spouse can only refer to a person of the opposite sex.

Michael Jackson case: A prosecutor in Santa Maria, Calif., said Tuesday that pop star Michael Jackson enticed a young boy, then imprisoned him and his family and forced them to make a video absolving him of molestation claims.

The fiery court presentation by Deputy District Attorney Gordon Auchincloss disclosed for the first time the prosecution's theory of its conspiracy case against Jackson, claiming he panicked after a television show threatened to destroy his career by linking him with an obsession with young boys. Auchincloss made his allegation at a hearing about a defense motion to dismiss the case.

Moussaoui examination: Terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussaoui should not be examined by defense mental health experts while his trial is on hold, prosecutors told a judge Monday in Alexandria, Va.

Any psychological testing at this time would make it difficult for government experts to evaluate his mental health later, the women attorneys said.

The government has said Moussaoui's mental condition could play a significant role if the death penalty remains a possible outcome for the only U.S. defendant



California budget: California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, center, jokes with legislative leaders Monday during a news conference to announce an agreement on an estimated \$103 billion budget at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. The agreement ended a 26-day standoff that wended after the Republican governor ridiculed state Democrats as "girly men."

charged with crimes related to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Escaped tiger: The Florida wildlife officer who shot a 600-pound escaped tiger to death pleaded on Monday for people to stop calling him an "animal murderer."

Jesse Curtis Lee, 24, was identified for the first time as the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officer who shot the big cat twice in the head on July 13 following a 26-hour search.

The commission released its own review of the incident, concluding that Lee used sound judgment and complied with the agency's guidelines when he shot the Bengal-Siberian tiger, called Bobo.

World

Missionary hostage: An American missionary who was held hostage by Muslim extremists for 377 days has returned to the Philippines under tight security to testify against her abductors, officials in Manila said Tuesday.

Gracia Burnham, whose husband Martin was killed during a bloody military rescue mission on June 7, 2002, was invited to testify Thursday against her Abu Sayyaf abductors in a suburban court, prosecutors said.

The Burnhams were celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary when they were snatched by the Abu Sayyaf at the upscale Des Palmes resort on Palawan island on May 27, 2001.

Microsoft antitrust case: Oral arguments in Microsoft's request for suspension of the European Union's landmark antitrust decision against the company will be heard on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, a European court in Luxembourg said Tuesday.

Last March, the European Commission declared Microsoft guilty of abusing its "near monopoly" with Windows software. It levied a record fine of in how the U.S. company, based in Redmond, Wash., operates. But the EU has suspended the sanctions pending the court's ruling.

Iran nuclear crisis: Iran has broken the U.N. nuclear watchdog's seals on centrifuge

equipment and resumed building the devices, which are key to making nuclear weapons, in a show of defiance against international efforts to monitor its program, diplomats in Vienna, Austria, said Tuesday.

The United States and its allies accuse Iran of working on a weapons program, something Tehran denies. It says its centrifuges are part of a nuclear program aimed solely at producing energy.

Under international pressure last year, the Islamic republic agreed to stop enriching uranium and making centrifuges used for enrichment. But after the International Atomic Energy Agency rebuked it in June for not being open enough about its nuclear program, Tehran responded by saying it would end the suspension on building centrifuges.

Russian oil scandal: A Moscow court has issued an arrest warrant for a large shareholder in the beleaguered Russian oil giant Yukos on charges of complicity in murder and attempted murder, Russian news agencies reported Monday.

The warrant was issued against Leonid Nezhlin, who lives in self-imposed exile in Israel, the reports said.

Nezhlin was granted Israeli citizenship last year, but Israeli authorities said at the time that would not automatically shield him from extradition to Russia, he also faces a previously issued arrest warrant on charges of tax evasion.

War on terrorism

Detainees released: Four French detainees held by U.S. authorities for more than two years at Guantanamo Bay returned home Tuesday — the first French nationals to be released from the U.S. base following months of talks — and negotiations were under way for the transfer of three others.

The four suspects arrived by plane at a military base in Normandy, France, and were taken by bus to Paris to appear before counterintelligence agents and anti-terrorism judge Jean-Louis Brugère.

The men — Mourad Benchellali, Imad Kouni, Nizar Sassi and Ibrahim Yadel — were apprehended in the U.S. campaign that toppled Afghanistan's Taliban regime.

Story and photos from The Associated Press

Messages of Support

★ To All Our Troops, We appreciate you and your family's sacrifice in your quest to liberate the Iraqi people. You are making the world a better and safer place for all of us. Our prayers are with you. We are with you and support you with every fiber of our

being. We know the courage and fortitude this war requires of you. You will be victorious.
Kater L. Swinson

★ Just wanted to let you know the United States are behind you 100%. This war

effects me very much, but I know we are in there for the right reasons. I say my prayers everyday for the war to end soon so everyone can come home to their families. Love all of you for your support for the United States. Pat

Officer faces hearings for shooting in Iraq

BY PANOS KAKAVIATOS

The Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — The first U.S. soldier charged with murder in Iraq is maintaining his innocence as he faces hearings that could lead to his court-martial for the shooting of a man during the hunt for Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Capt. Rogelio M. Maynulet, 29, is due to appear Wednesday before a court-martial in Hanau, outside Frankfurt, for a military version of a U.S. grand jury investigation that is looking into the killing.

The hearing began in Baghdad but was suspended June 28 after four days, as Maynulet's 1st Armored Division returned home to Germany.

Maynulet was charged June 12 with murder and dereliction of duty for the suspected killing of an "unidentified paramilitary member" May 21 near Kufa, south of Baghdad.

He is not in custody.

Before the charges, the Chicago native was a career soldier on his way up who was praised by his superiors in Iraq, said 1st Armored Division spokesman Maj. Michael Indiana.

"The gentleman had a good reputation. He was doing well in combat," Indiana told The Associated Press.

On May 21, Maynulet led his tank company on a mission between Najaf and Kufa to capture or kill al-Sadr, who was wanted on an Iraqi arrest warrant in connection with the slaying of a rival cleric.

Maynulet's group spotted a speeding BMW and pursued, the military said.

"A chase began, and U.S. forces shot at the vehicle. The driver and a passenger were wounded. Short-

ly thereafter, the wounded driver was shot and killed at close range," the U.S. military said in a statement announcing charges against Maynulet, who is accused of doing the shooting.

The military has not released further details of the incident, but a better picture is expected to emerge from the so-called Article 32 hearings.

Family members of the driver maintain that soldiers took the man out of the car and hit him with a heavy bullet before he was shot.

But Maynulet's lawyer, Capt. Will Helixon, disputes the account.

"The family's account of the incident is inaccurate," he told The AP. He said Maynulet denies the charges, but that he could not elaborate on his side of the story because the proceedings are still under way.

Maynulet declined interview requests by The Associated Press, but he told the Chicago Tribune recently that he was innocent.

Court sessions are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. A source familiar with the case said the hearings are likely to last well into August and involve a wide range of defense witnesses.

Attack kills 1, hurts 14 U.S. troops

Mortars struck near U.S. Embassy, Iraqi government buildings

BY PAUL GARWOOD

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A mortar barrage that pounded a neighborhood near the enclave holding the U.S. Embassy and Iraqi government offices Tuesday morning killed an Iraqi garbage collector as he was making his rounds and injured 14 U.S. soldiers.

Hours after the attack, the nation took a step toward democracy, announcing that a national conference to choose an interim assembly would begin Saturday.

The violence pushed a Jordanian company working for the U.S. military here to announce it was withdrawing from Iraq to secure the release of two Jordanian employees kidnapped by militants.

Fayez Saad al-Udwan and Mohammad Ahmed Salama Hussein al-Manay'a were kidnapped Monday by a group calling itself the Mujahideen Corps in Iraq. The group warned they would be killed within 72 hours unless their employer pulled out of the country and stopped cooperating with U.S. forces.

The decision by Daoud and Partners — a private company providing construction and catering services to the U.S. military — came hours after Al-Manay'a's father, Ahmed Salama, threatened to "chop off the head" of the firm's chief executive, Rami al-Duweisi, if he did not comply.

Militants have kidnapped more than 70 foreigners, mainly truck drivers, in recent months as part of the 15-month-old insurgency aimed at forcing members of U.S.-led coalition to pull troops out of Iraq and to scare foreign companies to stop work here.

One of the most prominent hostages, Egyptian diplomat Mohammed Mamdouh Helmi Quth, returned to work Tuesday after being released by militants who snatched him Friday outside a mosque and released him Monday.

"At the beginning, when they kidnapped me, they threatened to kill me if I troubled them in any way, but they later apologized and gave me presents, including a dagger and prayer beads," Quth told reporters at the Iraqi mission in Baghdad.

Early Tuesday, four to five mortar blasts landed near Baghdad's so-called Green Zone, the former home to the U.S. occupation government and current site of Iraq's interim government and the U.S. and British embassies.

One hit Salihiya, a nearby neighborhood, killing an Iraqi garbage collector as he cleared trash and injuring another, residents said.

"This poor guy was just doing his job and he has never killed by a mortar," intended for the coalition," resident Muthana Jama Hassoun said.



An Iraqi policeman inspects the area where mortar fire struck a residential area in central Baghdad early Tuesday. The mortar killed an Iraqi and injured 14 American troops.

A military spokesman said on condition of anonymity the mortar fire injured 14 U.S. soldiers, 11 of whom were treated and returned to duty and three of whom remained hospitalized.

In a further effort to impede the coalition forces and damage reconstruction efforts here, a militant group calling itself the "Group of Death" threatened Tuesday to cut off the main highway linking Iraq to Jordan, a major supply route for the U.S. military.

In other violence, gunmen assassinated the assistant director of Mahmoudiya Hospital, about 25 miles south of Baghdad, the hospital's chief said Tuesday.

Four coalition soldiers — one American and three Albanians — were wounded Tuesday

when their car ran over a mine while patrolling near the airport in the Iraqi city of Mosul, the Albanian Ministry of Defense reported.

The four were out of danger, but the U.S. soldier and 250 anti-tank mines near the city of Kut, south of Baghdad, said police Col. Ali Ribhi Najim. In another find, Marines stopped a KIA pickup truck filled with 219 mortar rounds in bags of grain at a checkpoint Monday, the military said Tuesday. The discovery was the largest cache of mortars seized by Marines since taking charge of Anbar Province in March.

Also Tuesday, Iraqi police arrested two people driving a truck filled with 1,000 mortars and 250 anti-tank mines near the city of Kut, south of Baghdad, said police Col. Ali Ribhi Najim. In another find, Marines stopped a KIA pickup truck filled with 219 mortar rounds in bags of grain at a checkpoint Monday, the military said Tuesday. The discovery was the largest cache of mortars seized by Marines since taking charge of Anbar Province in March.

■ Army Sgt. Tatjana Reed, 34, Fort Campbell, Ky.; killed Thursday in an explosion near Samarra, Iraq; assigned to the 66th Transportation Company, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

■ Army Spc. Nicholas J. Zangara, 21, Philadelphia; killed Saturday in an explosion in Tikrit, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany.

died — 562 as a result of hostile action and 206 of nonhostile causes, according to the military's numbers as of Monday.

The latest deaths reported by the U.S. military: ■ No new deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the U.S. military:

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Embassy urges caution

KUWAIT CITY — The United States Embassy warned Americans in Kuwait to be vigilant in the wake of the government's detention of suspected opponents of the multinational force in Iraq.

The U.S. Embassy urged Americans to be alert and try to avoid places where Westerners are known to congregate. There are some 14,000 American civilians in Kuwait as well as about 20,000 military personnel.

Kuwait's government said this weekend that 11 people had been arrested and referred to prosecutors for their alleged roles in recruiting young Kuwaitis to fight the U.S.-led force in Iraq and other security charges.

Italy: No death penalty

ROME — The Italian government committed itself Tuesday to oppose use of the death penalty in Iraq, even in the case of Saddam Hussein, who was recently arraigned on war crimes charges, a Senate official said.

Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's government agreed to an opposition request to back a moratorium on capital punishment in Iraq and refusing to hand over suspects who could risk the death penalty.

Italy has about 3,000 troops in Iraq, the third largest contingent in the U.S.-led coalition.

A Senate official, speaking on customary condition of anonymity, said the move was a statement of the government's position and didn't mean Italy would launch an official protest of Iraq's policy.

Iraqi plan conference

BAGHDAD — Iraq will open a three-day national conference to choose an interim assembly by July 31, delaying the start by two days at the request of the United Nations, organizers said Tuesday.

The conference, considered a key step in the nation's democratic transformation, will be attended by 1,000 delegates who will select members of a 100-member interim assembly to shepherd the nation to its first elections scheduled for January.

The date and location of the conference, which was to have been considered by the end of the month, had been kept secret because of security fears.

The three-day conference will now begin on July 31 and end Aug. 2.

From The Associated Press

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Monday, 906 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 671 died as a result of hostile action and 235 died of nonhostile causes.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 768 U.S. servicemen have

Schoomaker: War boosts transformation

BY SANDRA JONTZ
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Instead of delaying transformation, the global war on terror has forced the Army's hand on personnel and equipment issues, compelling Army leadership to change on a reduced timetable, said Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker.

"This war, as unfortunate as it was always is, provides momentum and focus and resources to transform that you might not have outside of this," Schoomaker said. "And what we are able to do, as we rotate forces, as we reset them, is this momentum and focus allows us to reset them for the future, not reset them as they were in the past. And so this has given us a great forcing func-

tion to allow us to do it."

"While we are engaged in combat operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan, we are also transforming the force," Schoomaker said.

"I often compare this to tuning a car engine while the engine is running, which is not only a complex task, but, as you know, it could be dangerous as well."

The Army is able to do that on the extra money supplied by the \$25 billion supplemental passed by Congress.



Schoomaker

"Now, because we're under different authorities here, we can grow the Army in excess of the authorized end-strength of 482,400 using supplemental funding without having to encumber our program," he said. "And we can grow it bigger, which we are."

There are more than 1 million soldiers across all Army components, with 276,000 deployed to 120 countries.

The Army also has accelerated getting soldiers out of the delayed entry program and off to boot camp, which could have a negative impact on next year's recruiting numbers.

Transformations in the force, from equipment to manning the force, "are some of the most significant changes in our Army that

we have made since World War II."

Changes include the creation of the 10 new combat units that will be lighter, more agile and more rapidly deployed according to Brigade Combat Teams (Units of Action), or BCT(UA). In 2006, the Army and Pentagon leadership will determine if the number needs to be boosted to 15 new units.

And the Army is working to stabilize the force, providing a "more cohesive and combat-ready formations, more stability and a more predictable life-style for our soldiers and their families, more agile and tailorable units, more high-demand units and skills and more commonality across the entire Army," he said.

The Army has been tasked to grow its forces by 30,000 soldiers in the active component over the next three years, an effort that will be paid for through supplemental dollars that Congress will have to approve each year.

"I can give it to you in terms of what it would cost us across the program per year to increase. If we magically put 30,000 soldiers into the Army today, it would cost us about \$3.6 billion per year," he said.

Through the addition, supposed to be temporary right now, "we can do what we need to do," Schoomaker said. "We can build the right kinds of units in the right components and in the right numbers with the capabilities we need."

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

Powell exhorts Hungary to stay the course in Iraq, Afghanistan

BY GEORGE GEDDA
The Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Secretary of State Colin Powell said Tuesday countries assisting post-war Iraq and Afghanistan must "not get weak in the knees" and abandon their commitments, because that would return the two nations to despotism.

Powell said he was grateful that Hungary and nine other European countries once aligned with the Soviet Union are providing assistance to either Iraq or Afghanistan or both.

His 18-hour visit here was partly aimed at reinforcing Hungary's deployments in the two countries — 354 troops in Iraq and, as of its latest dispatch Monday, 75 in Afghanistan. But the parliamentary mandate for the Iraq deployment expires at the end of the year.

Polls show that two-thirds of the Hungarian population want the troops to return home according to the schedule. Powell said they should remain there.

Iraq dominated a series of appearances by Powell on Tuesday morning, which included a television talk show interview and a speech to Hungarian ambassadors assembled here for consultations.

Powell awoke to a gray, sometimes drizzly morning here and sat down for the interview on the "Napkeze" show.

The number of coalition countries in Iraq has been reduced from 35 to 31 in recent months, and Powell indicated that it was imperative that those still on board not waver of the task. He was angered two weeks ago when the Philippine government withdrew its 51 troops from Iraq in order to save the life of a kidnapped Filipino truck driver.

"Democracy is hard," he said. "Democracy is dangerous. This is the time for us to be steadfast, not get weak in the knees and say, 'Oh, gosh, this may be too hard, let's leave these poor people alone so the tyrants can return.' We're not going to do that."

At another point, he said, "We must not allow insurgents, those who use bombs and kidnapping and beheading, to triumph."



President of the Hungarian Parliament Katalin Szili and Secretary of State Colin Powell talk in the Parliament building in Budapest after he was awarded the Grand Cross of the Republic of Hungary, in recognition of his contribution to U.S.-Hungarian relations, on Tuesday.

Later, Powell went to the Parliament building where he received the Award of the Grand Cross of the Hungarian Republic in recognition of his contribution to U.S.-Hungarian relations.

He then went to the Foreign Ministry, where he addressed Hungarian ambassadors summoned here for official discussions. He linked Hungary's own struggle for independence and freedom from Soviet tutelage to what he saw as a similar effort in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"You've had your own experience in this part of the world with struggles for freedom," Powell said. "From the dark days that shadowed this city in October of 1956, it took 30 years for

your heroism to be vindicated, for Hungary to be free."

"It won't take that long for the hope and the hearts of the peoples of Afghanistan and Iraq to be vindicated because the forces of freedom in the world are now stronger than ever."

He added that both Iraq and Afghanistan need security as they prepare for national elections in the coming months. The goal, he said, is "not to keep tyrants in power but to keep tyrants out of power."

Powell, who arrived here from Washington on Monday night, was leaving Tuesday afternoon for Egypt and from there will travel to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bosnia and Poland. Officials have said there may be an additional stop along the way.

He returns home next Tuesday.

3 charged in drowning case face hearing

FORT CARSON, Colo. — Three Fort Carson soldiers accused of shoving two Iraqi civilians off a bridge into the Tigris River, where one of them drowned, face a hearing Wednesday to determine whether they should be court-martialed.

A hearing for a fourth soldier will be scheduled later because his attorney will not be available, an Army spokeswoman said Monday.

Three of the soldiers are charged with involuntary manslaughter in the drowning death of one of the Iraqis and the fourth is charged with assault for allegedly pushing the second man into the river in the city of Samarra. That man survived.

Sgt. 1st Class Tracy E. Perkins, 33, 1st Lt. Jack M. Saville, 24, and Sgt. Reggie Martinez, 24, are charged with involuntary manslaughter. Sgt. Terry Bowman, 21, is charged with assault.

Airman accused of taking war souvenirs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — An Air Force major has been charged with bringing captured AK-47 assault rifles, rocket-propelled grenades and other illegal war souvenirs home from Iraq, military officials said Monday.

No decision has yet been made whether Maj. Gregory McMillon will be court-martialed or subject to nonjudicial discipline, said Capt. Kristi Beckman, a spokeswoman for the 33rd Fighter Wing.

Also among the suspected contraband found at Eglin Air Force Base were Iraqi uniforms, knives and bayonets.

Audit reveals concerns in tracking Iraq oil

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. controller chairing an oversight body for Iraq said it may take more than a year to establish a system to track how much oil is being produced in the Mideast country.

Controller Jean-Pierre Halbach, who chairs the International Advisory and Monitoring Board, made the comments Monday after briefing U.N. Security Council members on an audit of Iraq's oil revenues that was released July 15.

The audit, prepared by accounting firm KPMG, revealed a lack of adequate financial controls and an inability to get information on large noncompetitive contracts. It also cited concerns about an inability to track how much oil is being produced in Iraq and a lack of proper internal controls on the money being spent.

Pakistan undecided on Iraq deployment

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan has no decision yet to send peacekeepers to Iraq, the foreign ministry said Tuesday, following threats by Iraqi insurgents to kill two Pakistani hostages because their government was considering deploying troops.

An Iraqi militant group said Monday it had taken hostage two Pakistanis working for U.S. forces and had sentenced them to death because Pakistan was discussing the possibility of sending soldiers to Iraq.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry spokesman Masood Khan said Tuesday that the men were "innocent migrant workers" who "have nothing to do with international politics."

"Pakistan has not taken any decision to contribute peacekeeping troops to Iraq, under the auspices of the United Nations," he said.

From wire reports

First 2/6 Cav Longbows land in Illesheim

BY STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

ILLESHEIM, Germany — The four helicopters buzzed through the rain-drenched skies, skirting the bottoms of low, gray clouds that had planted themselves directly over their new German home. By late afternoon Monday, the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment's first AH-64D Apache Longbows had arrived in Illesheim after a long journey from Fort Hood in San Antonio. They got a wet welcome.

"It's a lot greener than Texas," said Capt. John Cochran, the 2/6 Cavalry's Troop A commander, shortly after the unit landed.

In June 2003, the unit shut down its operations in Illesheim just a few weeks after returning from eight months of combat duty in Kuwait and Iraq. Its members shipped their aging Alpha-model



PHOTOS BY STEVE LIEWER/Stars and Stripes

Apache back to the Boeing manufacturing plant in Mesa, Ariz., to be refurbished as Longbows, then scattered to other units. Many 2/6 Cavalry troopers landed back in the Middle East.

The unit, meanwhile, re-formed in Fort Hood, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Mike Swanson. A whole new group of aviators — mechanics, crew chiefs and support personnel, as well as pilots — had to learn new jobs. Only three officers and three soldiers are holdovers from the unit that fought in Iraq a year ago.

After months of classroom, flight and field exercises in Texas the Army certified the 2/6 Cavalry as combat-ready June 18. It is the 10th of 25 Army Apache battalions to get Longbows, and the second from Illesheim.



Swanson



Deamon



Morris



Sauer

Its sister unit, the 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, flew its Longbows home exactly two years earlier. Both are back under the wing of the Illesheim-based 11th Aviation Regiment, V Corps' battle-tested attack helicopter wing.

Swanson said 178 of the 2/6 Cavalry's troops already have made it to Illesheim with their families, and the remaining 224 are scheduled to arrive by Aug. 13. It is a rare Army example of unit rotation, in which all of the soldiers in a unit come and go together.

"We've been together as a group for almost a year," said Sgt. Mark Deamon, 24, of Versailles, Ind., a 2/6 Cavalry crew chief. "It helps to go through this together."

"The unit cohesion is great," added Staff Sgt. Kanobii Morris, 32, of Richmond, Va., an airframe mechanic.

On arrival in Illesheim, each single soldier or family is hosted by a sponsor from the 6/6 Cavalry and will move straight into a house or barracks room.

"It's been really smooth, as smooth as PCSing individually," said Sgt. Scott Henegar, 28, of Knoxville, Tenn., who arrived two weeks ago with the unit's advance party.

Still, it's been busy. Most soldiers are moving for the second time in a year. Cochran estimated that close to half in his squadron already has served in either Afghanistan or Iraq. And although they've received no deployment orders,

the squadron's members widely assume they'll be sent to one of the war zones early next year.

The Longbow has drawn praise from its new pilots.

Although the Longbow looks only slightly different from its outside, its fire-control and radar systems have been vastly improved.

Its on-board computer can track up to 16 battlefield targets at once and fire at them automatically. The Longbow flight system uses state-of-the-art "glass cockpit" technology, which replaces the Alpha model's dials and gauges with dual computer screens that display important flight data to the pilot.

"It's a very pilot-friendly aircraft," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 George Kessler, 41, of Springfield, Va., a 2/6 Cavalry pilot. "[The two models] come from the same gene pool, but [the Longbow] is a vast improvement."

"It's like going from a Volkswagen to a Porsche," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Sauer, 38, of Seattle, Kessler's flying partner.

Still, the aircraft doesn't lack for critics. The added systems have also increased weight, which at times during the Iraq war forced Longbows to cut back on fuel or ammunition.

"What suffers is the power," Kessler said. "But it's been identified [as a problem], and it should be addressed in the very near future."

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewer@mail.strips.osd.mil

Lt. Col. Mike Swanson, commander of the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, greets two of his pilots, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Sauer, left, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 George Kessler. The two ferried one of the squadron's 10 new AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopters into its home field at Illesheim, Germany, on Monday.

1st AD clinics adding staff

BY LISA HORN

Stars and Stripes

Military clinics at 1st Armored Division communities throughout Germany are adding personnel to guarantee soldiers, civilians and their families receive the care they need as 1st AD soldiers return to Germany.

In addition to the increased number of soldiers, clinics are dealing with the regular summer routine of troops and their families rotating in and out of Europe, as well as vacation staff.

In Baumholder, more than 5,000 1st AD soldiers have returned from the Middle East in July — about 95 percent of its total troops that were sent downrange.

To help ease the burden on health care providers, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center is sending four medical providers, eight to 10 medics and six other medical personnel to serve in 1st AD clinics each day to assist in the medical phase of reintegration.

The result, according to Lt. Col.

Francis Bannister, Baumholder clinic commander, is better service to the community.

"We had better access in June than we had in June of last year," Bannister said.

In June 2003, an average of 49.6 appointments were available per day and 50 percent were still available after 10 a.m., he said. This June, an average of 60 same-day appointments were available with 50 percent of those were available after 10 a.m.

"And July is on about the same track," Bannister added. "We've become more efficient. It's because of Landstuhl."

Dr. (Lt. Col.) Richard Jordan, deputy for outlying clinics at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and an internal medicine specialist, said the same idea was implemented in Vicenza, Italy, when the 173rd Airborne redeployed in February.

"Most of the time, we're sending up to five to 10 people [to clinics], depending on the day and how many people are reintegrating at the time," Jordan said.

The 1st Armored Division, like many combat arms units, has battalion aid stations manned by medics, who are working their units' reintegration in during their regular duties of operating sick call and providing referrals.

Dr. (Col.) John Torrent, deputy commander for clinical services at Landstuhl and a family practice physician, encourages soldiers to fully update medical staff of their health during reintegration.

"It's not difficult for [the specialty clinics] to make some additional room for redeploying soldiers," he said. "We want to identify problems, take care of them and still let them go on their 30 days of leave or ... identify problems that can wait, but ensure that they come back in a month."

Landstuhl's 41 specialty clinics, which include orthopedics, ophthalmology, physical therapy, behavioral health and family practice, are currently able to book appointments 90 days out, he said.

In Hanau, reservists are rotating



TERRY BOYD/Stars and Stripes

Sgt. Donald Mason, 24, a laboratory medical technician assigned to U.S.A. Health Clinic, Baumholder Health Clinic, prepares to take blood from April Rose, 34, on Tuesday.

in about every three months to supplement the clinic staff, said Lt. Col. Carolyn Tiffany, Hanau clinic commander.

In addition, clinics in the Heidelberg area have hired stateside contractors to provide care, said Col. David Kneger, commander of Heidelberg Army Medical Department Activity.

"Traditionally over the summer months, we have a lot of people coming and going, to include our own staff," he said. "... We knew that we were going to be short and ... have already contracted for some additional providers to help us bridge the gap."

E-mail Lisa Horn at: horn@mail.strips.osd.mil

Sailors to get informational guide CDs

Navy MWR, AT&T working together on four interactive 'passports'

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — Thousands of CD-ROMS packed with shopping tips, recreational opportunities and cultural do's and don'ts are being created for deployed sailors.

Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation and AT&T are producing 45,000 of the CDs. Three types of CD-ROMS "passport" CDs will be geared toward sailors making port visits in the Middle East, Asia and Europe. A fourth will focus on Navy MWR programs at bases worldwide.

"The MWR and the cultural information is available from a number of sources," said Steve Buckley of the MWR Communications Group. "This is just one way of putting it all together in a creative and interactive and fun way that will hopefully hold the sailors' interest and also inform them in particular about

*A pair of music videos
by rock groups
Dishwalla and
3 Doors Down
appear on the discs.*

MWR."

The overseas CDs will include information about MWR services in the different regions, important phone numbers, cultural overviews and language help, said Ingrid Mueller of the MWR Communications Group. A pair of music videos by rock groups Dishwalla and 3 Doors Down also appear on the discs.

AT&T, which is sponsoring the endeavor, will have links to its military-support Web site and access numbers for the various regions.

"It provides valuable information," said Roberto Cruz, AT&T media relations director.

"The impact can be immediate and the reach is vast through the CD. It's a medium these folks in the military understand now and nobody travels now without their CDs and PCs these days."

Once production is completed, CDs will go to deployed ships and squadrons serving in the Middle East, Fleet and Family Support Centers serving commands deploying to the Middle East, fleet and force command master chiefs Navywide, recreational coordinators serving aboard ships, career counselors and to special events.

The Middle East CD will be available by the end of the summer and will include recreation facility information, important phone numbers and cultural overviews. The Asian and European CDs are in production and will be available until the end of the year at the earliest. The European version won't likely be available until the spring, Buckley said.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at:
schonauers@mail.estrps.osd.mil

Air Force sergeants say Price is right

USAFE senior master sergeant recognized

BY JESSICA INIGO

Stars and Stripes

A U.S. Air Force in Europe senior master sergeant received the 2004 Air Force First Sergeant of the Year Award at the Air Force Sergeants Association national convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Senior Master Sgt. Ricky Price, who works in construction and training on Ramstein Air Base, Germany, was recognized during a ceremony Saturday for efforts to help the community and for improving airmen's knowledge through programs he created.

Price built and then taught the first USAFE first sergeant deployment and contingency training course. The course allowed 19 first sergeants and one chaplain to train in various wartime scenarios that primed them for Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Price also created self-improvement programs through a squadron combat library. The library offered airmen access to 51 College Level Examination Program and Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support books and compact discs.

He also taught a discipline class to 110 noncommissioned officers and developed a seminar that trained 40 supervisors in how to compile award nominations, performance reports and decoration packages.

Another program Price created, "Taking Care of Our Own," led the squadron into a year free of drunken driving offenses in 2003 by providing pocket cards with supervisor emergency contact information available to all airmen.

Price is also the chairman of the Kaiserslautern Military Community Holiday Cheer program, which raised more than \$67,000 to help about 840 families between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

"This is truly an honor, because when I look across the great Air Force and the first sergeants that serve, every one of them probably deserves this recognition," he said in an article written by the U.S. Air Force. "Sure, I worked hard this past year, but every first sergeant worked hard as well."

"I wish there was an award for the most outstanding group of the year—that group would be the Air Force first sergeants."

E-mail Jessica Inigo at:
inigo@mail.estrps.osd.mil

Senator dissatisfied with rocket fuel report

BY ERICA WERNER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon says it found contamination from a toxic chemical, perchlorate, at 14 abandoned or likely to be closed military bases nationwide. But a Democratic senator said last week more facilities should have been examined.

In the report sent to lawmakers, the Pentagon said it found the chemical in ground water and soil samples at defense sites in 10 states. The sites are among those that have been closed or are targeted by the Pentagon for closing or realignment for a different use.

Perchlorate, a toxic chemical from rocket fuel and weapons production, has been linked to thyroid damage.

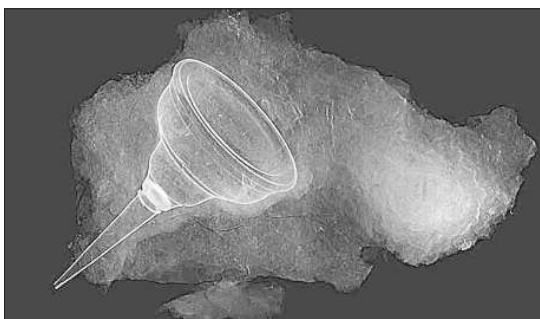
The amounts found ranged from 1.2 parts per billion in ground water at Fort McClellan in Alabama, to as high as 2,890 parts per billion in some samples of ground water at Fort Wingate Depot in New Mexico.

There is debate about what constitutes dangerous levels of perchlorate, but the Environmental Protection Agency's draft proposal for drinking water is one part per billion. Some but not all drinking water supplies draw on ground water.

Perchlorate has been found in drinking water supplies in 29 states and has also been found in vegetables.

The eight-page report, issued in response to a congressional mandate, was released two months overdue. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., released a letter Friday to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld saying it didn't meet congressional demands.

Feinstein said the report should have addressed 74 potentially contaminated closed bases, a number contained in a General Accounting Office report from 2003.



FRIENDS OF THE HUNLEY/AP

An undated X-ray shows an oil can found on board the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley. The Hunley could be on permanent display in a new museum in four years, the S.C. Hunley Commission chairman said.

Confederate sub Hunley could be on permanent display in four years

BY BRUCE SMITH

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley could be on permanent public display in a new museum in four years, the chairman of the South Carolina Hunley Commission said Friday.

"I'm hoping we will set a deadline for Friday 2008," said state Sen. Glenn McConnell, who leads the commission.

McConnell said conservation of the submarine, the first in history to sink an enemy warship, should begin next year.

Scientists are now studying whether to use traditional electrolysis, a technique known as cold plasma reduction or so-called supercritical fluids to remove the corrosive salts from the submarine.

McConnell said he is studying preliminary engineering reports and expects a final decision to be made this fall.

"We'll probably get experts around the world to critique it," he said. "We have only one chance, and that is to do it right."

Although raised almost four years ago and the sediment inside removed, the sub is still revealing glimpses of the past.

Scientists Friday announced they had found an oil can with oil still inside.

"We uncovered a mysterious concreted object that upon closer inspection turned out to be an intact oil can," said Maria Jacobson, the senior archaeologist on the project.

The encrusted can was found near the forward pump where commander Lt. George Dixon was stationed.

"The oil could have been used for the joy stick — the steering rod," McConnell said. It also might have been used to lubricate a lever to open a hatch, he said.

Scientists also found an encrusted iron wedge, nut and hammer. Earlier they had found wrenches and bolts near the hammer, suggesting that they were once part of a tool bag.

The 40-foot submarine became the first in history to sink an enemy warship when it rammed a spar with a black powder charge into the Union blockade ship Housatonic.

The Hunley never returned from its mission on Feb. 17, 1864, and was located off Sullivan's Island nine years ago. It was raised in 2000 and brought to a conservation lab at the old Charleston Naval Base.

ACT Against Violence is a joint project of the American Psychological Association and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

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Airman found dead

RAF LAKENHEATH, England — A 48th Communications Squadron airman was found dead in her home at Bury St. Edmunds on Sunday.

Airman 1st Class Katherine Trevino, 23, of Cornish, Maine, was a computer maintenance apprentice and had been assigned to the base since May 2003.

The Suffolk Constabulary and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 512 are investigating the cause of death.

A memorial service is planned for 10 a.m. Thursday at the base chapel.

Memorial for fallen GIs

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday in Kaiserslautern, Germany, for two 66th Transportation Company soldiers killed in Iraq.

Sgt. Tatjana Reed, 35, and Spc. Torey J. Dantzer, 21, were killed Thursday when a roadside bomb detonated near their convoy outside of Forward Operating Base Speicher in Samarra.

Dantzer died at the scene. Reed died en route to the hospital, according to Staff Sgt. Keesha Shepherd, a transportation company spokeswoman.

A third soldier, Spc. Jose Hernandez, was injured in the attack and is receiving treatment at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

The memorial service will be held at the Daenner Chapel.

From staff reports

Panel: Leave paramilitary to Pentagon

9/11 Commission sees no reason for CIA to duplicate operations

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
The Associated Press

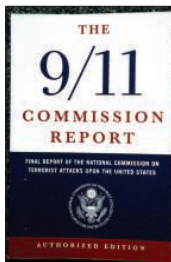
WASHINGTON — A proposal buried in the Sept. 11 commission's report recommends that paramilitary operations be made the sole province of the military, which now shares such duties with the CIA.

Having separate structures for paramilitary operations within the federal government is redundant, the panel said.

"Whether the price is measured in either money or people, the United States cannot afford to build two separate capabilities for carrying out secret military operations, secretly operating standoff missiles and secretly training foreign military or paramilitary forces," the report said. "The United States should concentrate responsibility and necessary legal authorities in one entity."

It does not rule out CIA involvement in such operations but says the military should be in charge.

Paramilitary operations, which range from training pro-U.S. insurgents to hunting terrorists, sometimes are overseen by the CIA and sometimes by military



See related story on Page 11

special operations forces such as the Green Berets. Which is used depends on the situation, the need for secrecy and the number of people required.

In its recommendation, the 9/11 panel said the CIA's paramilitary capabilities are regarded as agile, while the military's culture is "methodical and cumbersome."

Whether those reputations are deserved the report does not say, but it suggests that the CIA's experts should be integrated into

the military's much larger paramilitary force.

Pentagon and CIA officials said all the report's recommendations will be studied closely but were noncommittal about specific proposals. A Pentagon spokesman said that since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, military personnel and CIA operatives have enjoyed an unprecedented level of cooperation.

Although similar in mission, some distinctions exist between the military and CIA commandos.

Military special operations forces number just under 50,000, including reservists, and have a wide range of capabilities. The Army's Rangers serve as an elite infantry force, the Green Berets work with foreign troops and insurgents, and Delta Force is a specially trained counterterrorism and hostage rescue unit.

Navy SEALs specialize in maritime and coastal operations but often are found alongside the Army's special operators. The Air Force has a highly trained cadre of operators capable of coordinating airstrikes and rescuing downed pilots.

These forces fall under the military chain of command and bureaucracy and are subject to military law and treaties to limit activities of armed forces.

That's where the CIA's paramilitaries traditionally have entered the picture. Many are retired mili-

tary special operators.

They are part of the CIA's covert operations arm, called the Special Activities Division. Some of the spies in the unit specialize in propaganda and economic and political disruption; others, members of the Special Operations Group, are true warriors.

One such paramilitary was Johnny "Mike" Spann, the first American to die in combat in Afghanistan, killed during a 2001 prison uprising.

For the paramilitaries to go into action, the president must sign a secret document called a "finding" that governs their activities, and designated congressional leaders are informed.

Unlike the Green Berets, the CIA agents can operate without uniform or identification as officers of the U.S. government. If any are caught or killed, the government plausibly can deny their identities as government agents. Unlike most military special operations forces, women are among the CIA's paramilitary ranks.

In recent decades, the paramilitary force has seen heavy use in Central America, Angola and Afghanistan.

The size of the CIA's paramilitary force is classified, although it's known to have enlarged significantly since the Sept. 11 attacks.

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Stars and Stripes reporter Terry Boyd speaks with Servicemembers from Triple Deuce at Firebase Purgatory.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacs, Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.

IN THE WORLD

UA flight returns after hoax bomb threat

BY MIKE CORDER
The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — A written bomb threat forced a United Airlines jet to return to Sydney International Airport on Tuesday after it took off for Los Angeles, but police declared the threat a hoax after interviewing all 246 passengers.

The hoax occurred days after a purported al-Qaida affiliate in Europe, the Tawhid Islamic Group,

warned it would turn Australia into "pools of blood" if the government did not withdraw its troops from Iraq. Australia has nearly 900 military personnel in the region.

Transport Minister John Anderson told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio earlier Tuesday that staff on board Flight 840 found a written bomb threat, which was being investigated.

Australian media reported the note was written on an air sickness bag.

United Airlines said in a statement that the plane turned around 90 minutes into the flight. The Boeing 747 taxied to a remote spot at the airport after landing.

"As a precaution, the captain immediately returned to Sydney, landing without incident at 5:50 p.m. Further investigations will be carried out," it said.

Flights in and out of Sydney were briefly halted or diverted while the threat was investigated, Anderson said.

"The first point to make is everyone is safe, and flights in Australia are now resuming," he added.

"Things are returning to normal."

Anderson said the plane was being searched, but no bomb was immediately found. Later he told ABC television he was "pretty sure it was a hoax."

Police commander Peter O'Brien said all passengers were interviewed and released.

The flight was rescheduled to fly to Los Angeles on Wednesday.

Sydney resident Jeff Nelson, who was one of the first to emerge from the jet, said passengers were told little about the unfolding drama.

"The plane actually turned around and then we were told that there was an unconfirmed threat," Nelson said.

"We were given very little information over all; everyone was pretty calm."

Palestinian premier retracts his resignation

BY LARA SUKHITIAN
The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia rescinded his resignation Tuesday, kissing and embracing Yasser Arafat as the two ended a 10-day political standoff and a deep rift over power.

Qureia resigned earlier this month in frustration at Arafat's refusal to let him rescind the security forces and deal with growing unrest in the Palestinian areas. But Arafat refused to let him step down.

Arafat's almost absolute control over the Palestinian Authority has been a source of frustration for the United States and other countries hoping to promote reform among the Palestinian leadership.

Hassan Abu Libdeh, general secretary of the Cabinet, said Arafat had agreed to give up some control over security forces.

During a visit to Budapest, Hungary, Secretary of State Colin Powell urged Arafat to make good on his word.

"We need action, not propositions, not proposals, not commitments," Powell said. "Action. Real action that transfers power to a prime minister of the Palestinian people, and Palestinian Authority, and consolidation of security services with those consolidated services being under the direction of the prime minister."

Under the agreement, Qureia's power would be limited to the internal security forces, while Arafat would retain control over the Palestinian intelligence service and armed forces, Palestinian officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Still, the officials said Arafat gave ground on the key issue of corruption, agreeing to order the attorney-general to open investigations against tainted officials.

Qureia told reporters at a news conference that the two leaders had agreed to enforce power structures already in place.



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EU seeks Sudan peace

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union on Monday joined the United States in pushing for U.N. sanctions against Sudan if the country does not move to end the conflict in its western Darfur region.

"Unity in the international community is very, very important," German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer told reporters before a meeting of EU foreign ministers.

He demanded Sudan implement a July 3 promise to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan to rein in pro-government Arab militias, improve security and provide better access for relief efforts.

The violence in Darfur began 15 months ago when two rebel groups from Darfur's African tribes took up arms in a struggle over land and resources. Arab militias known as Janjaweed then began a brutal campaign to drive out the black Africans.

Turkey ups terror alert

ANKARA, Turkey — Airports in Turkey have been placed on the second highest terror alert level after officials received intelligence that the al-Qaida terror network may be planning Sept. 11-style attacks, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

The daily Milliyet said the warning said Osama bin Laden's terror network may either hijack a plane to crash it onto a target or detonate an explosive device on board a plane.

The report did not say where the attack might take place.

From The Associated Press

British pupil gets life for school stabbing

BY JANE WARDELL
The Associated Press

LONDON — A 16-year-old boy was sentenced to life imprisonment Tuesday for the stabbing murder of a fellow pupil at a village school.

Judge John Goldring ordered that Alan Pennell serve a minimum of 12 years of the life sentence.

Pennell was 15 when used a flick knife to stab Luke Walmsley, 14, through the heart in a hallway at Birkbeck School in North Somercotes, eastern England.

The death shocked the country and raised questions about school security; British schools are by and large well controlled and peaceful places.

Pennell had claimed he stabbed Walmsley in self-defense, but a jury at Nottingham Crown Court deliberated for just four hours Monday before finding him guilty of murder.

Goldring said it was clear the attack was premeditated.

Witnesses at the trial said Pennell threatened several times to kill Walmsley, a popular student at the school. Pennell stabbed Walmsley as he stood in the hallway discussing soccer with another student.

"I am sure this was not something

done on the spur of the moment. It was something you thought about," Goldring said.

"You may have intended to kill him. I am sure you took the decision to cause him the most serious injury," he added.

Pennell sat expressionless in the dock with his head bowed as the sentence was delivered.

Walmsley's parents, Jayne and Paul, who attended court each day during the 13-day trial, sobbed as Pennell was removed from the court.

Goldring lifted a court order barring publication of Pennell's name following the sentencing.

He also allowed the media to reveal that Pennell had previously been warned by police for punching a fellow pupil and that he had an obsession with violent films and a collection of knives at his home — details that were not provided to the jury.

Birkbeck School's head teacher, Gary Loveridge, praised the courage of his pupils since the stabbing.

"Since that terrible day in November, we have all struggled to understand how this could have happened in our small rural school, where violence is an absolute rarity and student behavior is good," Loveridge said outside the school.

Working hard in Europe? You must not be a German

Habits in 10 countries studied

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Slovenians apparently are Europe's busiest people, while Germans and Norwegians are among the biggest loafers, according to a "time use" survey of 10 countries released Tuesday.

Using data collected between 1998 and 2002 for employed men and women, the European Union statistics office found sleep consumed the greatest part of the day for everyone.

Swedish men get the fewest — 7 hours, 52 minutes — and French women the most — 8 hours, 38 minutes.

French women, though, may be exhausted from doing so much housework on top of their outside jobs. The survey found they spend 90 percent more time each day on domestic work than their male counterparts, the biggest spread in the Eurostat results.

Adding together domestic and "gainful" work, Slovenes come out the most industrious, with women busy 8 hours, 47 minutes each day and men 7 hours, 44 minutes.

Hungarian, Estonian and French women were not far behind. Among men, Swedes, Britons and the French trailed by only a few minutes.

German men and women spent the least amount of time working, about 7 hours each day.

Norwegians have the most free time — about 5½ hours — but they may not be having the most fun.

The French spend nearly 3 hours daily — easily the most of any country — on "meals and personal care," a category that included not only eating and drinking but "sexual activities."

The 10 countries in the survey were: Belgium, Germany, Estonia, France, Hungary, Slovenia, Finland, Sweden, Britain and Norway.

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IN THE STATES

Islam charity indicted; Hamas ties cited

BY CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A major American Muslim charity and seven of its officers were charged Tuesday with providing millions of dollars in support to Hamas, a Palestinian extremist organization blamed for dozens of suicide bomber attacks in Israel. The 42-count indictment, returned by a federal grand jury in Dallas, alleges that the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development provided more than \$12.4 million to individuals and organizations linked to Hamas from 1995 to 2001. The U.S. government froze the charity's assets in December 2001.

The indictment names the foundation along with its president, Shukri Abu Baker, chairman, Ghaithan Elashi, executive director, Hasham Maghawri; and four

others. The charges include conspiracy, providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization, tax evasion and money laundering.

"To those who exploit good hearts to secretly fund violence and murder, this prosecution sends a clear message: There is no distinction between those who carry out terrorist attacks and those who knowingly finance terrorist attacks," Attorney General John Ashcroft said at a news conference to announce charges.

Noting that a number of Americans have been Hamas victims, Ashcroft said, "Today, a U.S.-based charity that claims to do good works is charged with funding the works of evil."

The attorney general said the foundation gave money to the families of Hamas terrorists killed and jailed by Israel.

"In this manner, the defendants effectively rewarded past and encouraged future suicide bombings and terrorist activities on behalf of Hamas."

Tim Evans, Elashi's attorney, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment Tuesday.

On Monday, the foundation filed a complaint with the inspector general of the Justice Department and asked for an investigation because it claimed the FBI fabricated its case.

Holy Land, which claims to be the largest U.S. Muslim charity, has been shut down since about \$4 million of its assets were frozen by the U.S. government in late 2001. Federal courts have repeatedly rejected Holy Land's appeals to get its assets unfrozen, concluding that the government has sufficient evidence linking the charity to terrorism.

The charity has insisted that its money went only for relief to refugees, orphans and disaster victims. In 2000, it raised about \$1.3 million for what charity officials said were schools and social programs in Palestinian-controlled areas and other mainly Islamic nations.

The indictment charges that Holy Land provided financial aid to the militant group Hamas as far back as 1988.

John Boyd, a lawyer for the Holy Land Foundation, said he had not seen the indictment and could not comment in detail. However, he questioned the use of old transactions in the indictment.

"If these are related to transactions in '88 and '89, that is six years before Hamas committed its first terrorist acts and seven years before Hamas was declared a terrorist organization," Boyd said.

Israeli government officials hailed the U.S. move against the group.

Altar boy's death files

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — The state's highest court on Tuesday lifted an order that has sealed the investigative files in the unsolved 1972 murder of a 13-year-old altar boy.

The Supreme Judicial Court said a lower court judge was right to order the unsealing of the records from a state police investigation into the death of Danny Croteau. Defrocked pedophile priest Richard Lavigne was the only publicly identified suspect in the boy's slaying, but he was never charged.

Croteau's bludgeoned body was found on the banks of the Chichester River on April 15, 1972.

Cancer payment cuts

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration proposed cutting Medicare payment rates Tuesday for doctors providing cancer treatment in their offices, projecting savings of \$530 million amid concerns that some specialists would reduce their practices.

Medicare chief Mark McClellan said the government is paying far too much for cancer drugs administered in doctors' offices — up to 50 percent more than typical sales prices for some medicines used to treat prostate cancer. The changes, to take place in 2005, would make payments competitive with prices negotiated by other health plans, he said.

Cancer specialists' revenues could decline 2 percent to 8 percent, McClellan said.

Bismarck amendment

BISMARCK, N.D. — Supporters of a North Dakota constitutional amendment to limit marriage to heterosexual couples say they have collected more than enough petition signatures for their campaign to put the issue to a November vote.

25,688 signatures are needed to put the amendment on the statewide ballot this fall, but the North Dakota Family Alliance's Web site, which posts up-dated signature totals daily, said the 5:40 p.m. Monday.

From wire reports

Cheney visits Marines at Camp Pendleton



Visc President Dick Cheney pins a Purple Heart on Marine Cpl. Nathan T. Coutts, front left, who was wounded in Iraq, during a visit Tuesday to Camp Pendleton Marine Corps base in California. Cheney told Marines during a morale-boosting stop that terrorist hatred for America is limitless and the enemy must be crushed.

Safety board renews call for cameras in airplane cockpits

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Safety officials are stepping up pressure on the Federal Aviation Administration to require video cameras in cockpits so accident investigators will have better information on what causes plane crashes.

The National Transportation Safety Board launched a two-day hearing Tuesday to renew its call for large and small planes to be equipped with crash-resistant cockpit image recorders.

"We need to light the fires," said National Transportation Safety Board member Carol Car-

mody, who will chair the hearing. The NTSB recommended four years ago that the FAA require cameras in large aircraft.

Supporting the idea was Ken Smart of the British Air Accidents Investigation Branch, who said cameras are used on military aircraft in the United Kingdom and are very useful in understanding the human actions that lead to airplane accidents.

Nonetheless, the idea of cameras in the cockpits drew strong opposition from airline pilots.

John David of the Allied Pilots Association said having a camera monitor everything they do

would affect their ability to perform.

The Air Line Pilots Association, the largest pilots union, issued a statement saying "the benefits of video imaging are vastly overstated, because far more effective and efficient tools exist."

Pilots object to the idea because they're concerned about their privacy and they fear that images, unlike technical data, can give rise to subjective interpretations of pilots' actions in the seconds before a crash.

John Cox, executive air safety chairman of the ALPA, said cameras in the cockpit would be a waste of money.

President considers 9/11 panel proposals

The Associated Press

CRAWFORD, Texas — President Bush met Monday via videoconference with his task force reviewing the Sept. 11 commission's recommendations, and contemplates acting within days on some of them. White House spokeswoman Claire Buchanan said.

She would not say which of the more than 40 recommendations Bush was likely to adopt or if he would make his own proposals, and it was unclear if he will make any announcements on the matter this week as the Democratic National Convention is under way in Boston.

The president said he was reading the report and found it "interesting."

"It reads like a mystery, a novel. It's well written," Bush told The Associated Press in a brief interview just outside his home in Crawford. Asked what he was gleaming from the report, he said, "I'm gleaming that was a well-thought-out plot by the enemy."

"We've got work to do," he said, adding that the nation is "safe but not safe enough."

He declined to offer an opinion of the commission's recommendations, or when he would act.

"The president thinks that his most important obligation is to protect the American people... and he will be governed by doing what's best and doing what's right and by acting as quickly as possible," Buchanan said. "If there's something we can do to protect the American people, it isn't going to wait."

The White House is studying which of the panel's proposals would improve domestic security, which can be implemented by executive order and which require congressional approval.

Heavy hitters take center stage

Clinton, Carter rev up convention, with would-be first lady up next

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Democrats, energized by their last first lady, were set to get their first long look Tuesday at the multimillionaire heiress who would be their next one as they turn to John Kerry's outspoken wife and an aging liberal warrior to define the Massachusetts senator they would put in the White House.

Teresa Heinz Kerry, widow of a Republican senator who inherited his family's ketchup fortune, and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy were to offer the nation a more personal and family view of the party's candidate for president on the second night of the Democratic National Convention.

Kerry was appearing in the Navy town of Norfolk, Va., on Tuesday, where he was calling for the Sept. 11 commission to continue working past its scheduled end date of Aug. 26 to ensure recommended reforms are put in place.

Kerry is to arrive at the convention Wednesday as the question of whether he or Bush can best protect America from terrorists continues to dominate the political debate.

It was former President Bill Clinton and his wife who were the convention's stars Monday.

Introducing her husband Monday night as "the last great Democratic president," New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton revved up the packed convention hall by saying Kerry "will lead the world, not alienate it."

When the former president took the stage, delegates jumped up, screamed, applauded and waved placards. Even as he clearly enjoyed it, Clinton quickly turned the focus to insisting that Kerry would be a good commander in chief.

During the Vietnam War, many young men, including the current president, the vice president and me, could have gone to Vietnam and didn't. John Kerry came from a privileged background. He could have avoided going, too, but instead, he said: Send me," Clinton said.

In keeping with the Democratic convention strategy of avoiding strong Bush-bashing, Clinton jabbed the Republicans sharply on the economy, tax cuts and corporate windfalls, while taking more subtle digs at the president himself.

Kerry has "a willingness to hear other views, even those who disagree with him," Clinton said. "John Kerry will make choices that reflect both conviction and common sense."

Former President Carter accused President Bush of squandering the international goodwill that flowed to the United States in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"After 9/11, America stood proud, wounded but determined and united," Carter said in a speech Monday night to the opening session of the Democratic National Convention. "But in just 34 months, we have watched with deep concern as all this goodwill



Former Vice President Al Gore waves to the delegates Monday during the Democratic National Convention at the FleetCenter in Boston.

has been squandered by a virtually unbroken series of mistakes and miscalculations."

"Unilateral acts and demands have isolated the United States from the very nations we need to join in combatting terrorism. Seeking to counter those who say Bush is better suited than John F. Kerry to defend the nation against the threat of terrorism, Carter noted that the Massachusetts senator is a decorated Vietnam veteran "who knows the horrors of war and the responsibilities of leadership."

"When our national security requires military action, John Kerry has already proven in Vietnam that he will not hesitate to act," Carter said. "And as a proven defender of our national security,

John Kerry will strengthen the global alliance against terrorism while avoiding unnecessary wars."

The former president avoided mentioning Bush by name but sprinkled his speech with references to "trust" and "telling the truth," and denounced the "confused and disturbing strategy of pre-emptive war."

Former Vice President Al Gore urged Democrats to "fully and completely" channel their anger over the bitter Florida recount, which decided the 2000 election in Bush's favor, and send Kerry to the White House.

Pre-convention polls show Kerry tied or slightly ahead of Bush, although the same surveys show the president with a clear advantage over his challenger in handling the war on terror.

Voters say Kerry too quiet on the issues

BY RICHARD MORIN
AND CLAUDIA DEANE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A majority of voters say they know little about John F. Kerry's positions on key issues and want the Democratic presidential candidate to detail specific plans for handling the economy, Iraq and the war on terrorism when he addresses the Democratic National Convention and a nationally televised audience on Thursday, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll.

The survey suggests that the stakes for Kerry and the Democrats as they began their convention in Boston could not be higher. In barely a month, Kerry has lost ground to President Bush on every top voting issue in this year's election.

A growing proportion of voters say Bush and not Kerry is the candidate who most closely shares their values, and four in 10 believe the Democrat is "too liberal." Bush has even narrowed the gap on which candidate better understands the problems, an area that Kerry has led.

The poll suggests that negative ads by the Bush-Cheney campaign that have been airing since early March, as well as attacks by Republican officials, have been increasingly successful in planting the image of Kerry as an unreliable leader who flip-flops on the issues — perceptions that Democrats will work hard to reverse at their convention.

Kerry's advisers downplayed the results of the Post-ABC poll, asserting that the senator from Massachusetts enters the convention stronger than other recent challengers to incumbent presidents.

Cheryl Utley, 43, of Lowell, Mich., would seem to be exactly the kind of voter that Kerry is targeting this week. Utley, a restaurant worker, is an independent living in a battle-ground town. She is leaning toward Bush even though she has more often supported Democrats.

"I have more of a sense of where he stands on things than Bush," she said.

The survey found that Kerry and Bush remain virtually deadlocked, with 48 percent of registered voters supporting Bush and 46 percent Kerry. Independent candidate Ralph Nader claims a support of a hypothetical vote. In mid-June, Kerry held a four-point lead over Bush and was tied with Bush in a Post survey two weeks ago.

U.S. military forces providing extraordinary security levels

BY ROBERT BURNS
The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Pentagon has quietly positioned air, land and sea forces in and around Boston in an unprecedented level of military support for a national political convention, a military spokesman said Monday.

"We have provided security for past conventions but nothing to the extent we have now," said Michael Kucharek, a spokesman for U.S. Northern Command, which was created after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to ensure that the military is prepared for security threats in U.S. borders.

"This is somewhat of a precedent-setting situation," given that the Democratic National Convention is the first political convention since the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, he said.

Most of the security visible on the streets of Boston is state and local police. Kucharek said the military's main role is behind-the-scenes coordination and preparation to respond to a major emergency.

Kucharek said he could not disclose numbers or other details of the military presence in Boston. He said it includes representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard — both active duty and National Guard.

The Air Force is flying combat air patrols in the vicinity of Boston, he said, as is normal for what the military calls a "special security event," like the Super Bowl held in Houston last winter.

In addition to active duty forces, the Massachusetts and Maine National Guards make up "Joint Task Force-Democratic National Convention," Kucharek said. It is commanded by Army Brig. Gen. Gary A. Pappas, who is commander of the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

Kucharek said a similar arrangement would be made for the Republican National Convention in New York in late August.

By federal law the U.S. military is barred from performing domestic law enforcement duties, but Kucharek said the arrangement made for Boston this week enables the military to provide crisis support if requested by the U.S. Secret Service. He offered no specifics, but typically that means the military might be called upon to help mitigate the effects of, say, a chemical or biological weapons attack through its extensive decontamination and medical evacuation resources.

The Coast Guard has said it planned to use infrared and night vision cameras in Boston Harbor and to randomly board commercial ships for security checks.



A military policeman keeps watch behind concertina wire on Tuesday outside the FleetCenter in Boston, where security has been stepped up during the Democratic National Convention. The Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard are providing forces for securing the convention.

Specialist LaAndrea LaMarque, 54B Chemical Specialist, U.S. Army Reserve

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OPINION

U.S. dealings with Iran, Iraq intertwined

Los Angeles Times

The report of the independent 9/11 commission, aside from demolishing the idea that al-Qaida collaborated with al-Qaida, points the finger elsewhere — including at Tehran. Not only was Iran potentially in league with al-Qaida in the June 1996 Khobar Towers bombing that killed 19 Americans and wounded 372, says the report released Thursday, but it also probably “facilitated the transit of al-Qaida members into and out of Afghanistan in 1991.” Iran may not have been aware of the 9/11 plot — it denied any such knowledge Thursday and said it had arrested “a large number” of al-Qaida members — but it probably rendered vital assistance. It doesn’t take precise knowledge of a crime to turn you into an accomplice.

The Iran-al-Qaida link is thinner than Iran’s nuclear ambitions, but it’s further evidence that the Bush administration chose to see only what would bolster its obsession with toppling Saddam Hussein.

Such hypocrisy has been at the heart of U.S. relations with Iraq and Iran for decades, often with lethal consequences.

During the 1980s, the Reagan administration cozied up to Saddam even as he was gassing Iranian soldiers in the Iran-Iraq war. At the same time, the White House went ahead with the so-called Iran-Contra

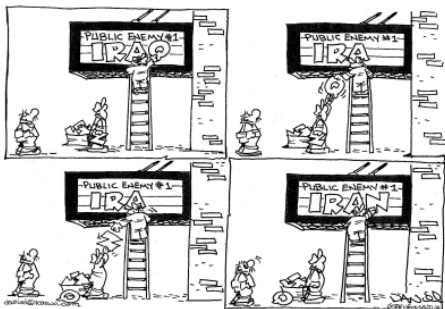
deal, which supplied the mullahs with arms (as well as a Bible signed by President Reagan and a cake that were supposed to demonstrate U.S. good will) as part of a complicated scheme to fund Nicaraguan anti-communist Contra rebels. At the time, Congress forbade direct U.S. aid to the Contras.

Then, in the aftermath of the 1991 Gulf War, President George H.W. Bush stood by as Saddam used helicopter gunships to gas Kurds and Shiites. More than a decade later, President George W. Bush went to war to destroy those weapons of mass destruction — after they no longer existed.

Meanwhile, Vice President Dick Cheney’s former company, Halliburton, is being investigated by a grand jury for possibly violating federal sanctions by operating in Iran during Cheney’s time as CEO. Today, Cheney is the last major holdout claiming extensive al-Qaida ties with Saddam.

Here’s the real story: Overthrowing Saddam has opened up Iraq to Iran, which has among other things, allowed al-Qaida agents to infiltrate Iraq. The Iraqi defense and interior ministers both accuse Iran of fomenting terrorism and have threatened military retaliation inside Iran.

With the U.S. military stretched tightly, it has no capability to back up such bluster even if it wanted to. Washington already



has to turn a half-blind eye to the nuclear ambitions of North Korea and ignore the Taliban ties of many Pakistani officials and warlords.

Perhaps Iran really is reforming internally, as a newly reselected Council on Foreign Relations study headed by former national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and

former CIA Director Robert Gates argues. Perhaps the United States should more urgently seek dialogue with the government in Tehran and hope that diplomacy will produce better results than it has so far.

Given the resources the administration has squandered in Iraq, it might have no other choice.

USA Patriot Act is guilty only of making us safer

By PAUL ROSENZWEIG

WASHINGTON
alsehood, according to Mark Twain’s famous dictum, gets half-way around the world before the truth even gets its shoes on.

Time and again, outlandish stories seem to grow legs and find wide distribution before the truth can catch up.

A good example is the USA Patriot Act. It’s so broadly demonized now, you’d never know it passed with overwhelming support in the days immediately after Sept. 11, 2001.

One point the Patriot Act as a caution of abuse and a threat to civil liberties. Advocacy groups run up ads depicting anonymous hands tearing up the Constitution and a fearful old man fearful to enter a bookstore. Prominent politicians who voted for the act call for a complete overhaul, if not outright repeal.

But the truth is catching up. And the first truth is that the Patriot Act was absolutely vital to protect America’s security. Before 9/11, our law enforcement and intelligence agencies were limited by law in what information they could share with each other.

The Patriot Act tore down that wall — and officials have praised the act’s value.

As former Attorney General Janet Reno told the 9/11 commission, “Generally everything that’s been done in the Patriot Act has been helpful, I think, while at the same time maintaining the balance with respect to civil liberties.”

And as Attorney General John Ashcroft’s recent report to Congress makes clear, this change in the law has real, practical consequences.

Information-sharing facilitated by the Patriot Act, for example, was critical to the successful dismantling of terror cells in Portland, Ore., Lackawanna, N.Y., and Virginia. Likewise, the information-sharing provisions contained in the act assisted the prosecution in San Diego of those involved with an al-Qaida drugs-for-weap-

ons plot involving Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

It also aided in the prosecution of Ensam Amout, an individual who had a long-standing relationship with Osama bin Laden and who used his charity organization to obtain funds illicitly from unsuspecting Americans for terrorist organizations, such as al-Qaida, and to serve as a channel for people to contribute money knowingly to such groups.

These are not trivial successes. On the contrary, they’re part of an enormous, ongoing effort to protect America from further terrorist attacks.

We cannot, of course, say that the Patriot Act alone can stop terrorism. But every time we successfully use the new tools at our disposal to thwart a terrorist organization, that’s a victory.

Yet, remarkably, some of these vital provisions allowing the exchange of information between law enforcement and intelligence agencies will expire at the end of next year. So here’s a second truth: If Congress does nothing, then parts of the law will return to where they were on the

day before 9/11 — to a time when our government couldn’t, by law, connect all the dots. Nobody wants a return to those days, but that is where we are headed if Congress does not set aside its partisan debates.

But what of the abuses you ask? Time for a third truth: There is no abuse of the Patriot Act. None. The Justice Department’s inspector general (who is required by the Patriot Act to examine the use of the act and report any abuse twice a year) has reported that there have been no instances in which the Patriot Act has been invoked to infringe on civil rights or civil liberties.

Others agree. For example, at a Judiciary Committee hearing on the Patriot Act, Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California said: “I have never had a single abuse of the Patriot Act reported to me. My staff... asked [the American Civil Liberties Union] for instances of actual abuses. They... said they had none.”

So the fiction of abuse can be laid to rest. The government is not, to take but one popular myth, invading libraries and scouring your book records. It’s a conven-

nient fiction that calls to mind (as Joseph Buttram, a contributor to *The Weekly Standard*, has written) the appealing image of “white-haired and apple-cheeked [librarians] resisting as best they can the terrible forces of McCarthyism, evangelical Christian book-burning, middle-class hypocrisy, and Big Brother government.” But no matter how appealing the image, it has no more reality than any good Hollywood movie.

Government’s obligation is a dual one: to provide security against violence and to preserve civil liberty. This is not a zero-sum game.

We can achieve both goals if we empower government to do sensible things while exercising oversight to prevent any real abuses of authority. The Patriot Act, with its reasonable extension of authority to allow the government to act effectively with appropriate oversight rules, meets this goal.

And the truth eventually catches up to the fiction.

Paul Rosenzweig, an adjunct professor of law at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., is a senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation. This column first appeared in *The (Baltimore) Sun*.

Mallard Fillmore

By BRUCE TINSLEY



New trial for arson

PA PHILADELPHIA — A federal appeals court ordered a new trial Wednesday for a man accused of arson and weapons charges, ruling that prosecutors improperly inflamed a jury by calling him a terrorist a day before the first anniversary of the 2001 attacks.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered a new trial for Darick Moore, who is accused of setting a house fire in York in 2001 that injured a 13-year-old boy and his father.

Witnesses testified at Moore's 2007 trial that he beat his ex-girlfriend, injured her son, then attacked a 13-year-old girl who was forced to sell drugs for him.

A federal prosecutor concluded the case by telling jurors that "there are very different kinds of terrorists, and I think this defendant is one of them."

Alligator mauls woman

FL SANIBEL — A 12-foot alligator attacked a landscaper behind an island home, dragging her into a pond before a neighbor and police officers yanked the woman from the animal's jaws.

"It was kind of a tug-of-war," said the neighbor, Jim Anholt.

Part of Jamie Melsiek's right arm had to be amputated later during six hours of surgery. She also was severely bitten on her buttocks and thighs, but doctors believe she will walk again, her family said. She remained in critical condition.

Melsiek, 54, was trimming a tree when the alligator attacked. Rescuers struggled for about five minutes to pull Melsiek from the pond. When she came free, medical workers began treating her on the shore. Police shot the alligator in the head, killing it. It took six men to lift the animal to shore.

Masseur arrested

CA ALAMO — A 35-year-old male massage therapist was arrested on suspicion of sexually violating a female client at a skin care salon, authorities said.

Philip Clark was arrested on suspicion of oral copulation after the alleged victim came forward following the incident, according to a sheriff's spokesman.

Clark is not a licensed massage therapist, and Judy's is not a legal massage parlor, the spokesman said. Clark, 35, had worked at Judy's for about seven months and had also been employed at other locations.

Teacher hides camera

NJ MIDDLETOWN — A long-time piano teacher is accused of hiding "spy-sized" cameras in his bathroom to make hundreds of videotapes of students and others using his toilet, police said Thursday.

George Johnson, 68, was arrested July 1. Johnson, a piano teacher for 40 years who had two prior convictions for sex-related crimes, taped students and their parents, guardians, drivers and siblings, authorities said. Those identified range in age from 6 to 72, police said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

The charges against him include wiretapping, allowing a juvenile to be photographed in a sexual position, and observation of sexual contact. So far, police have determined that 22 of the identified people on the 353 tapes viewed so far are under 13. The alleged victims who have identified themselves say the oldest tapes date back four years.

Man found dead on couch

OH MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS — A man was found dead on a couch in a hospital lounge, and a nurse told police that nobody had checked on him for at least 17 hours because he appeared to be asleep.

Robert F. Johnson, 55, who had emphysema, was found Thursday at Southwest General Health Center, police said. It was not clear when he died; an autopsy was planned.

Police Chief John Maddox said Johnson probably had been dead for several hours and most likely died of natural causes.

Famous fish shop closes

TX AUSTIN — The Austin Angler, a fly fishing shop made famous when it was featured in a Visa credit card commercial, is closing after more than two decades in business.

The shop in downtown Austin was portrayed as a quirky little business that emphatically did not



Checking for damage

Peach farmer Hank Passi looks at a dead branch caused by last month's 17-year invasion of cicada's on one of his peach trees at his Eagle's Roost Farm and Orchards in North East, Md.

take American Express. The ad first aired during the 1985 Super Bowl.

Owner Larry Sunderland said that after surviving three economic slumps, the shop couldn't compete with the new technology of retailing. The shop is closing July 31.

"Larry didn't run the place to make money; he did it because he loved the place, like I did," said Robert McCurdy, who started the business in late 1980.

69 years for killing wife

NJ NEW BRUNSWICK — A man has been sentenced to 69 years in prison for beating his wife to death with a sledgehammer and a board spiked with nails.

Charles Rashid, 33, who was convicted of murder in May, must serve more than 55 years before he will be eligible for parole.

Prosecutors said Rashid used a short handled-sledgehammer to crush Orquidea Tejada-Rashid's skull in their kitchen while their 2-year-old son watched "Elmo" videotapes in an upstairs bedroom of their home in Piscataway.

In a videotaped confession, Rashid said he "just snapped" while his wife was verbally attacking him.

At his trial, his lawyer used a diminished capacity psychiatric defense.

Prosecutors said Rashid tried to make Tejada-Rashid's October 2001 death look like a carjacking by leaving her body near a trash bin and then abandoning her still-running car about two blocks away. He filed a missing-person report with police the next day.

Smuggling scam

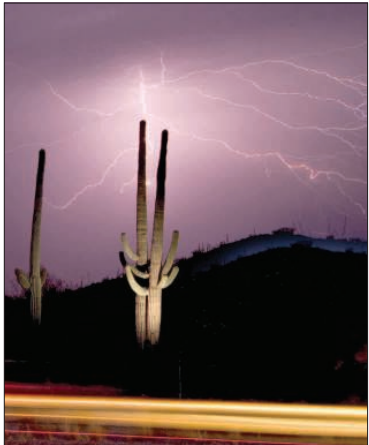
IL CHICAGO — Four city residents were charged in a scheme to smuggle South American children into the United States with fraudulent passports, authorities said. U.S. parents were allegedly paid \$300 to obtain authentic passports for their children and substitute photos of the smuggled children. One mother said she was told she could help sick children secure medical treatment.

Online business

CT HARTFORD — Connecticut's largest business lobbying group has gone online to promote business-friendly political candidates. The Connecticut Business and Industry Association's new site, www.ctbizvotes.com, is aimed at informing and motivating those involved in business to vote. The site also will list key votes by members of the General Assembly and campaign finance information.

Full story on civil rights

AR LITTLE ROCK — State tourism officials unveiled a publication highlighting Arkansas' civil rights heritage, both the good and the bad. The brochure covers race riots in the 1960s and the Little Rock Central High School desegregation crisis in 1957. It also mentions a college commencement address by Martin Luther King Jr. and the naming of Maya Angelou, a Stamps native, as poet laureate.



Fire in the sky

West of Tucson, Ariz.

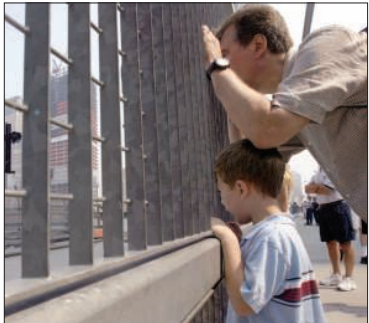
Lightning streaks across the night sky as a thunderstorm moves through the area



Knee-deep

stuck after leaving work.

Gus Lopez tries to rescue his car from a flooded street in East Rutherford, N.J. after getting



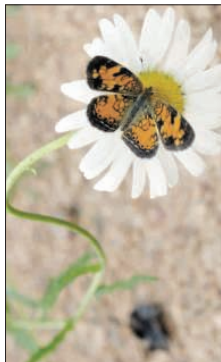
Cracking out the progress

Stephen Hodorowski, right, and his son David Hodorowski, 5, view construction at the site of the World Trade Center in New York.



Row, row, row your boat

Rowboats with swimmers in tow begin the Around the Island Marathon Swim off Absecon Island in Atlantic City, N.J.



Taking a break

A butterfly rests on a daisy in the woods in rural Marathon County, Wisconsin.



Reading up

Roshni Patel, of New York, looks at a copy of "The 9/11 Commission Report" at a Borders bookstore in New York.

Testimony tossed

FL PORT LAUDERDALE — A Judge Friday threw out the taped confession of a teenager who said she wrapped underwear around her newborn's neck, put him in a backpack and threw him in a canal.

Defense and prosecution lawyers said the first-degree murder case against Aimee Lee Weiss, now 20, hinges on the confession she made when she was 17.

The confession was thrown out because a higher court had ruled the Miranda rights warning form she signed was unconstitutional.

Weiss was charged with killing her baby just after giving birth in her bathroom at home in March 2001. She says the boy was stillborn after a secret pregnancy, and her lawyer said Friday she discarded the body in a panic.

Street performance suit

MA BOSTON — A group of about 30 musicians and other performers has sued Boston's police and parks departments to challenge the constitutionality of a 19th-century law that restricts street performances.

"Artists have been arrested and threatened with arrest for 30 years. I'm tired of it," said Stephen Baird, a musician from the city's Jamaica Plain neighborhood who says he was ordered by a park ranger earlier this week to stop playing on Boston Common.

Baird says he has a musician's license from the city police department, but was told he needed another permit from the city's Parks and Recreation Department. But they told him they don't issue such permits to musicians.

The case has been taken up pro bono by the Boston law firm of Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault, which filed suit in U.S. District Court earlier this week to challenge the constitutionality of the city ordinance and police regulation.

Coke distributor jailed

TX SAN ANTONIO — A supervisor in the Alejandro Noe Castillon drug organization was sentenced to life in prison Thursday for distributing more than 3,100 pounds of cocaine.

Jesse Salazar Ramirez of San Antonio was convicted in February of money laundering, conspiracy to distribute cocaine and two counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton said in a news release that U.S. District Judge Edward C. Prado noted during sentencing that Ramirez threatened a witness, provided perjured testimony and tried to intimidate a federal prosecutor with threats during the trial.

Ramirez spoke for three hours during the sentencing. He accused Prado of bias and federal authorities of lying.

Fourteen others arrested in the drug operation, including Castillon, pleaded guilty. Castillon was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Maggot milk man sues

VA NORFOLK — A man who says he was served maggot-contaminated milk at a Denny's restaurant in Virginia Beach is suing the chain for \$1 million.

Russell L. Long doesn't say in his claim whether he consumed

the milk, which he said he was served two years ago. His suit states, however, the experience continues to bother him physically and mentally.

Denny's denies the allegation but says in a cross-claim that if the milk did contain maggots, they must have come from the supplier.

A diploma 60 years later

VT BURLINGTON — Joseph "Al" Moreau has received his Burlington High School diploma nearly 60 years after war interrupted his education.

Moreau's daughter, Paula Lyon, watched with tears in her eyes as her father held his diploma Friday. It was Lyon who learned, after reading a story in The Burlington Free Press, that all Vermont World War II veterans were eligible for diplomas.

In the spring of 1945, the lanky Burlington High School senior chose the Navy over a diploma. Itching to see action during the waning days of World War II, Moreau and a couple of classmates founded the local recruiter on Church Street weeks.

With less than a month to go before graduation, Moreau received the go-ahead to enlist. He left the safety of his house on Grove Street for an aircraft carrier in the Marshall Islands.

Opium discovery

CA SANTA CLARA — Nearly 20,000 illegal opium poppies were found growing among sunflowers in Santa Clara County, Calif., this week, authorities said.

No arrests have been made, and the case is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration along with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department, said DEA spokesman Richard Meyer.

Opium poppies can't be grown without a license issued by the DEA.

The owner of the property said he had leased the land to farm workers who in turn subleased it — without permission — to a flower grower, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

Burning down the house

WA AUBURN — A 3-year-old child playing with matches was blamed for a fire that caused an estimated \$40,000 damage to an Auburn, Wash., duplex.

Auburn firefighters were called to the duplex and put out the blaze within 15 minutes. No one was injured, but a man, woman and child in one unit, as well as a woman who lived in the other unit of the duplex, will have to find temporary shelter.

Wide rabies exposure

RI PROVIDENCE — As many as fifty people may have been exposed to a baby raccoon with rabies that was kept at the East Providence Animal Shelter, health officials said Thursday.

The state Department of Health said six raccoons had been kept in a pen at the shelter since July 1. One became ill and tested positive for rabies, while the other five have tested negative.

The shelter was ordered closed Wednesday night and will remain closed until further notice.

Photos and stories from wire reports

Rocket's red glare

A fireworks display is held in front of the USS Reagan, the Navy's newest aircraft carrier, in San Diego.

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STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

Cattrall moves to the stage

Former "Sex and the City" star **Kim Cattrall** is to make her London stage debut next year in "Whose Life Is It Anyway?", producers have announced.



Cattrall

Peter Hall will direct Cattrall in an updated version of **Brian Clark's** 1978 drama about a sculptor paralyzed in a road accident who seeks the right to die.

Mary Tyler Moore won a Tony Award in 1980 for playing the role on Broadway. The play was filmed the next year with **Richard Dreyfuss** in the lead.

Born in Liverpool, England, and raised in Canada, Cattrall played Samantha on the HBO sitcom, which ended a six-season run earlier this year.

Previews for "Whose Life Is It Anyway?" begin Jan. 7, 2005. The play is scheduled to open Jan. 25 for a 16-week run at the Duke of York's theater.

Oprah's big lunch bill

Impressed with a tasty sandwich, **Oprah Winfrey** decided to invest in the **Art Cafe and Bakery** in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

"It turns out this was the most expensive sandwich I've ever had," Winfrey said Sunday after a restaurant photo shoot for the October issue of her magazine, *O, The Oprah Magazine*.

A few weeks ago, Winfrey ate a chicken curry sandwich from the cafe and was overwhelmed. She offered to buy the place and was told 24 hours later, the talk-show host sent cafe owner and chef **Margaux Sky** a check — the amount wasn't disclosed. The two had never met, and Winfrey hadn't even visited the cafe.

Sky, who had considered selling the cafe because of the long hours and modest profit, was surprised.

"It was just a sandwich, you know what I mean?" she said.

C-Murder on trial

Rapper **C-Murder**, who is awaiting trial in **Jefferson Parish** on murder charges, has been indicted by a **Baton Rouge, La.** grand jury on a second-degree murder charge in an unrelated case.

The rapper, whose real name is **Corey Miller**, is accused of shooting at a Baton Rouge club owner and patron on Aug. 14, 2001.

He faces a 50-year prison sentence if convicted of the second-degree murder charge.

Miller's **New Orleans** lawyer, **Ronald Rakosky**, said East Baton Rouge Parish prosecutors did nothing with Miller's case for years and only got "cranked up" after a state judge ordered a new trial for Miller in the Jefferson Parish case.

In September, a jury convicted Miller of second-degree murder in the killing of a 16-year-old at a Jefferson Parish nightclub on Jan. 12, 2002. A state judge ordered that Miller receive a new trial because prosecutors withheld information about witnesses.

Crowe crazy for Kentucky

Cameron Crowe said he's happy to be filming his latest movie, "Elizabethtown," in **Kentucky** — a state he said his father loved and often visited.



Crowe

Crowe, director of "Jerry Maguire" and "Almost Famous," said two of his uncles lived in **Stanton**, and he visited the state as a child. Crowe has been shooting scenes for the movie recently in **Versailles**, near **Lexington**.

The film's title is named for a small town near **Louisville**.

"I really like that corridor of travel between **Nashville** and **Louisville**. And I like the idea that two of the characters live along that road. There's one part of the story where they need a place to meet up. Oddly enough, **Elizabethtown** was the perfect place for them to meet," Crowe said in an interview with *The Courier-Journal* of Louisville for Sunday's editions.

The film stars **Orlando Bloom** and **Kirsten Dunst**.

Crowe said his late father would have enjoyed the movie.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

The dark side of Los Angeles

Director's vision makes Cruise into murderous psychopath in 'Collateral'

BY RACHEL ABRAMOWITZ

Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD

On screen, **Michael Mann's** Los Angeles is full of helicopters careening through the hazy sky like angry buzzards, and forked taxicabs, little isolation tanks, hurtling up and down freeways. Feral coyotes wander into traffic, like ominous visions out of Native American legends, in the same fashion that the 61-year-old director once saw one wandering down **Fairfax Avenue**.

"There's a certain romance of the city at night that I confess I'm completely vulnerable to," says Mann, a Chicago native who's lived here since 1971. "What happens when the marine layer comes in and all of a sudden the vapor lights bounce off the bottom of the clouds and makes a sky that looks like late afternoon in northern Europe, and what it looks like from up there. There are so many objects flying around over L.A. If you're up in a helicopter, you can see 15 to 20 airplanes on approach to [Los Angeles International Airport]. There's a constant stream, which is metaphoric for information."

Mann, who's best known as the creator of the pastel-colored cops of "Miami Vice," is pointedly not talking about the clichés of Los Angeles, of palm trees and surfers, or what he calls "the supposed cultural ghetto," like **Brentwood** and **Malibu**, where the Hollywood mob congregates. (Mann admits he lives on the Westside.) This is multiethnic, multi-class Los Angeles, the one he discovered in '95, riding around for months with a detective in an unmarked police car when he was researching his last L.A. film, "Heat."

"This film is about the city of Los Angeles, and that's anything from **Wilmington** to **City of Commerce** to **Pico Rivera** to **Koreatown**," says the director, reeling off disparate communities that make up the cacophonous whole.

"Collateral" debuts Aug. 6. Written by **Stuart Beattie**, with an uncredited rewrite by Mann, it's a movie-movie about a lonely cabby (**Damie Fox**) who inadvertently picks up a hit man (**Tom Cruise**). It's an absurdist buddy picture, Hollywood's gun-toting version of "No Exit," about two men locked together for 10 hours of escalating psychological warfare.

Given the film's preoccupation with night in the City of Angels, it's perhaps fitting that the only time Mann, Cruise and Fox can manage to sit down and talk is at 10 p.m. recently in Mann's Westside offices. Cruise and Fox have the rhythms of a married couple, an easy rapport born of night after night crammed together in a small space, the fate of the movie essentially hanging on their ability to connect.

Cruise is friendly but focused, as if all the mental fat has been carefully sheared away, the personal idiosyncrasies hidden. While the 41-year-old megastar has played vampire ("Interview With the Vampire") and sociopathic ("Magical Mystery Tour") even into the long-age "Taps," he's never played a pure psychopath before — a totally amoral, cold-blooded killing machine. The 36-year-old Fox, who's appeared in such films as "Any Given Sunday" and "Booby

Call," has never starred in such a high-profile film. While Cruise is by far the bigger star, Fox goes back with the gregariousness of a natural entertainer. Apparently, much downtime on the set of "Collateral" was spent listening to Fox tell amusing stories.



Mann

Mann seems harried but energized, like the adrenaline's kicked in on the last lap of the marathon. He pops in and out of the interview, as he's simultaneously monitoring a screening of the film going down the hall.

Question: Is your character based on a real guy?

Cruise: Michael locks onto these characters. When I go to work on a character, you build research on the character. How many months did we spend where I'd come in?

Mann: Four or five months.

Cruise: We'd just sit right here and talk about the character and he had all these notes, I mean, literally pictures from Indiana and all these stories. It informs the scenes. And it resonates.

Mann: It's the enjoyable part without any stress. You are just really digging it. One of the things we did is Tom became a FedEx man. The objective was simply to be somebody else. This character when he was working — out and stalking — would be able to be somebody else, and for Tom to be somebody else is difficult. He could put a beard on, have sunglasses on and a baseball hat on and someone goes, "There's Tom Cruise."

Question: It's not so imaginative. Tom Cruise is little FedEx shorts. Did you wear a uniform?

Cruise: Yeah, we had a wardrobe robe.

Mann: You go figure out the little details of what the FedEx guy does, it's not so simple. He's got to scan it. You've got to prove who you are. And he has to get your signature. He's supposed to address people a certain way. And there's a whole routine to take Tom and to imagine Tom Cruise in little FedEx shorts. Did you wear a uniform?

Question: So did he notice Tom?

Mann: No. Question: So why did you want Tom for this part? I mean, he's not the most obvious choice.

Cruise: Why the hell did you want me, actually? (laughing)

Mann: There's dimensions to Tom that I hadn't seen on the screen. It became an exploration to bring some of that out, some of the steel that's in there. Some of the toughness, the certainty and the very good kind of avid, proactive vibe towards a goal, and darker resonances within that. Tom has some deep currents of volition and where does that come from? What a terrific collision it was to take Tom and collide [him] with this character.

He's got that same artistic drive and courage to go to those places. Pacino described it best. He said when you really are reaching for it, it's like playing a high E on the violin. If you're right on, it's exquisite, and if you're just far off ... (motions with his hands, a tiny bit).

Cruise: It's tragic (laughing).

Actor **Tom Cruise** plays a psychopathic hit man in **Michael Mann's** new movie, "Collateral."

AP

Footrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



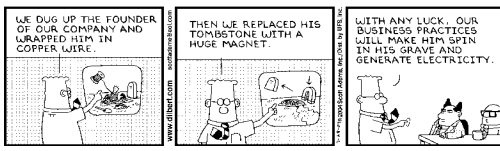
Spider Man



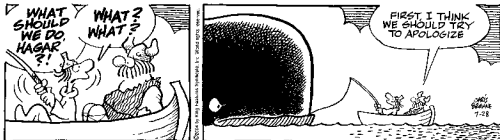
Blondie



Dilbert



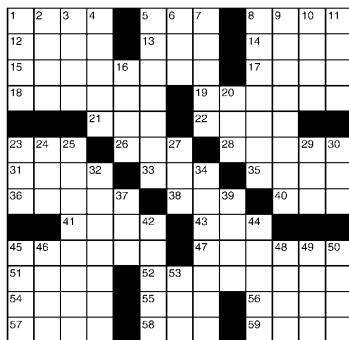
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

1 Herzingway

5 Clear the tables

8 Deeds

12 Having studied

13 "... rose — rose"

14 Unadorned

15 Celebration

17 Attracted

18 Art on plaster

19 Expiates

21 Addressee

22 Ms. Moore

23 Cleo's slayer

26 Kvetch

28 When pigs fly

31 Incubator noise

33 Lettuce variety

35 Appellation

36 Malapropist

38 Harvest goddess

40 Drag

41 "Hee Haw" humor

43 Milwaukee product

45 Baffler

47 Wreak havoc on

51 Jackknife, e.g.

52 Castaway's goal

54 Verve

55 Packed away

56 Stopper

57 Depend (on)

58 Took charge

59 "— company, ..."

Down

1 Jackie Paper's pal

2 Mimic

3 Say cheese,

4 Nervous

5 Encampment

6 Dos Passos trilogy

7 Dieter's entree

8 Place for a

9 six-pack?

10 Genealogy chart

11 Wields a needle

12 PC picture

13 Answer to

14 X rating?

23 Police-alert letters

24 Witness

25 Grail seeker

27 Stickum

29 Ostich's kin

30 Gas pump abbr.

32 Offspring

34 Shadow-boxed

37 Sleeve contents

39 Pole, e.g.

42 Twangy

44 Dust

45 River in Germany

46 Pale yellow-green

48 Acknowledge

49 Yepremian of

50 Benevolent order

53 Versatile truck

Answer to Previous Puzzle



7-28 CRYPTOQUIP

FMOY NKMHNUV GYU SM

LUZHSGSU MY SGPU G ZHR

HA SKU RMMX. VM JHXX

FMO. SKHAP MY VJHL?

Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF YOUR SPIGOT IS DRIPPING ONION JUICE, YOU COULD JOKINGLY SAY IT'S A LEEKY FAUCET.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: S equals T

Twins hustle past Central rival White Sox

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen had no problem with Torii Hunter's jarring hit on his catcher. In fact, Guillen hopes his team learned something from the Minnesota star's hustle.

Hunter bowled over White Sox catcher Jake Burke in the eighth inning, sending him to the hospital with a sore jaw after the Twins' 6-2 road victory over their Central Division rival Monday.

"If my players don't like it, that's a message. You got to play the game hard. I know if it happened on my side, I'd be high-fiving my players," Guillen said.

Hunter scored on Henry Blanco's sacrifice fly, helping the Twins win for the eighth time in 10 games and push their lead over Chicago to 1½ games.

"I wasn't trying to hurt him. I was just playing the game like you should play the game," Hunter said. "I'm not a dirty player. I just go out and have fun and play the game. That's it."

Blanco added a homer in the

AL Roundup

fourth to break a solid performance by Brad Radke (7-6).

The Minnesota starter allowed three hits in seven innings and retired the final 16 batters he faced. He did not allow a hit after the second when he gave up Paul Konerko's 27th homer and a single to Tim Lincecum.

"It was like a playoff atmosphere and I think this team likes that," Radke said.

The Twins quickly reversed a trend of struggling against Mark Buehrle (10-4), scoring a run in the first and second innings for an early lead. He was 3-0 against Minnesota this season and had beaten them six straight times dating to June 2003.

But the Twins tagged Buehrle for four runs on 12 hits in 6½ innings Monday night — his most lustrous this season.

Rangers 6, Angels 1 — Michael Young hit a leadoff homer, Gary

Mathews Jr. added a three-run shot and Ryan Drees (7-5) earned his first road win of the season for AL West-leading Texas.

Young drove Kelvin Escobar's second pitch into the left-field bullpen for his eighth career lead-off homer. Escobar (5-8) lost for the sixth time in seven decisions.

Athletics 14, Mariners 5: Eric Byrnes had a three-run double and four RBIs, and Oakland bailed out struggling starter Barry Zito (6-7) by rallying from a four-run deficit.

Ichiro Suzuki extended his hitting streak to 18 games, and Justin Leone homered for the Mariners. Seattle has lost 13 straight road games.

Erubiel Durazo homered for the second straight day, Damian Miller had three hits and an RBI, and Eric Chavez had three RBIs for the Athletics, who took advantage of 14 walks.

Zito (6-7) beat Travis Blackley (1-3) to win for only the second time since June 8.

Red Sox 12, Orioles 5: Boston's Pedro Martinez ended a run of frustration against the Orioles.

Martinez (11-4) was pulled with one out in the seventh inning during a steady rain in Baltimore. He allowed five runs on seven hits, walked two and struck out five.

Martinez came in 0-2 with a 8.66 ERA in three starts against Baltimore this season.

Jason Varitek singled in two runs to cap a six-run third inning against rookie Erik Bedard (4-5) and finished with three RBIs.

The Red Sox have 39 runs and 52 hits in their past four games.

Tigers 13, Indians 4: Mike Maroth pitched seven innings and visiting Detroit got home runs from Carlos Guillen and Marcus Thames.

Thames hit a two-run homer in a six-run first against Cliff Lee (10-3), and Guillen had a three-run shot when the Tigers added six in the fifth to open a 12-2 lead.

Maroth (8-7) won his third straight game. He allowed four runs and eight hits.

Yankees 6, Blue Jays 5 (10): Tony Clark hit a go-ahead double



Minnesota Twins' Henry Blanco hit a two-run homer as the Twins increased their lead over the Chicago White Sox to 1½ games with a 6-2 victory in Chicago.

in the 11th inning off Jason Frazar (3-3), and visiting New York won despite Mariano Rivera blowing his second straight save.

Rivera converted 23 consecutive saves before giving up three runs in an 11-10 loss to Boston on Saturday. Rivera (2-1) failed to hold a two-run lead in the ninth against Toronto, but pitched a perfect 10th for the victory.

Carlos Delgado and Gregg Zaun homered for Toronto.

Indians trade OF Branyan to Milwaukee for cash

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Russell Branyan didn't let a little thing like not seeing his name on the lineup card ruin his return to the major leagues on Monday.

"Step 1 is getting back to the big leagues. Step 2 is getting back in the lineup," Branyan said after the Cleveland Indians traded him to the Milwaukee Brewers for cash.

Branyan struck out when he pinch-hit in the ninth inning of the Brewers' 3-1 loss to the Chicago Cubs on Monday night.

The 28-year-old Branyan organized a win in Atlanta's start and was traded to the Indians on April 25. Assigned to Triple-A Buffalo, he hit .279 with 26 home runs and 79 RBIs.

The Indians agreed to let him go if another major league team wanted him.

MLB briefs

Indians in 1998. He hit a career-high 24 home runs while splitting the 2002 season with Cleveland and Cincinnati. He hit .216 with nine homers and 26 RBIs for the Reds last year.

Branyan has played in 400 major league games and batted .227 with 70 homers and 180 RBIs. He has struck out 449 times in 1,104 at-bats.

Reds OF Romano needs season-ending surgery

CINCINNATI — Reds outfielder Jason Romano has a torn right hamstring that will need season-ending surgery, and was placed on the 15-day disabled list

Monday. The Reds called up shortstop Felipe Lopez from Triple-A Louisville to take Romano's spot.

Romano will have surgery Tuesday. He injured himself while chasing a fly ball in the first inning of a 6-5 loss in Pittsburgh on Sunday.

Romano hit 154 in two stints with the Reds, including four starts.

Seattle's Pinediro will go on DL

OAKLAND, Calif. — Seattle starter Joel Pinediro will be placed on the disabled list this week with a strained right elbow, an injury that's not as severe as the club thought Sunday night.

Doctors determined Pinediro won't need surgery now, and the Mariners are hopeful he will return this season after initially fearing the right-hander, 25, had a season-ending injury.

The injury is to the flexor bundle, several tendons that come together in the same place and are used to flex the wrist, trainer Rick Griffin said.

Pinediro has a 4.67 ERA and leads the Mariners with 111 strikeouts, 140½ innings pitched and 21 starts.

Rangers place reliever Broccoli, DL Fullmer on disabled list

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Texas Rangers placed reliever Doug Broccoli and designated hitter Brad Fullmer on the 15-day disabled list Monday, activating reliever Jeff Nelson and first baseman Herbert Perry from the DL.

The Rangers made four other player moves, all involving pitchers. Joaquin Benoit was reinstated from the bereavement list after returning from the Dominican Republic for his grandmother's funeral. John Wadlin was des-

igned for assignment, Roston Garcia was optioned to Triple-A Oklahoma and left-hander Erasmo Ramirez was recalled from Oklahoma.

Twins' Punto breaks clavicle

CHICAGO — Minnesota Twins second baseman Nick Punto broke his right collarbone while chasing a ball in the first inning of Monday night's game with the Chicago White Sox.

Punto charged Willie Harris' bunt and fell as he unsuccessfully tried to scoop it and throw it first. Harris reached on a single.

Punto was examined on the field by a trainer and later had X-rays at U.S. Cellular Field that revealed the break. He was replaced by Luis Rivas.

Punto, who lined out in the top of the first, has appeared in 38 games and batted .253.

Tenacity: Rogers is oldest player on Rangers' young roster

ROGERS, FROM BACK PAGE

Still, Rogers can never go better than he did that night in 1994, when he threw the 14th perfect game in major league history, the 12th since the modern era began in 1900.

Just hours after a strike date was set that would end the season two weeks later, and lead to the conclusion of the World Series, Rogers had a magical two-hour outing before 46,581 at the new Ballpark in Arlington.

"It wasn't a matter of stuff or velocity or location," Rogers said. "Everything had to do with the frame of mind I was in. The only regret was that I couldn't just step out of my body and go sit in the front row and watch it."

Rogers threw just 98 pitches and struck out eight, with two-sport star Bo Jackson going down on strikes three times. There were nine flyballs, three infield popouts and seven ground-outs.

"I remember that night, he had above-average stuff," said Rex Hudler, the Angels' second baseman then who is now a broadcaster for the team. "His fastball was 94-95, he had a real nice change-up. All of his pitches seemed to be working. He was cruising along."

He only needed a little help.

Third baseman Dean Palmer ended the third inning — long before thoughts of a no-hitter — when he handled a tough pop and

threw out Gary DiSarcina by a step.

As Hudler got loose in the on-deck circle to lead off the ninth, he told fans he was going to go to get a hit. Then, after fouling off a couple of pitches, he hit a sinking liner into the right-center field gap.

"I hit out of a jam shot, kind of off my hands a little bit, but when it went off the bat, I thought it was going to fall in," Hudler said.

"I left the box going, 'I got him, I got him.' ... And I just heard a roar that was deafening. I'll never forget that."

Rookie center fielder Rusty Greer had made a diving catch to preserve the only perfect game

and one of only five no-hitters in Rangers history. Two outs later, Greer caught DiSarcina's flyball to end it.

Rogers said he hasn't watched the game often. The last time was when he walked in on Greer watching the tape.

"Rusty has a knack of pointing out when he did something pretty good," Rogers said, laughing. "I don't really need the video to remember it."

A decade later, Greer is still trying to come back from a series of surgeries resulting from his hard-nosed play. He hasn't played in two years.

Rogers' back for his third stint with the team that drafted him in 1982. He left as a free

agent after 1995 to sign with the New York Yankees, then spent time with Oakland and the Mets before returning to Texas in 2000. He spent last season in Minnesota, after being unable to reach a new contract with the Rangers, before coming back as the No. 1 starter with a two-year deal.

Rogers is the oldest player for the AL West-leading Rangers, a team built by 20-somethings players like All-Star infielders Hank Blalock, Michael Young and Alfonso Soriano, and outfielder Laynce Nix, who was in the Little League when Rogers threw his perfect game.

"It's hard to believe I'm still here after 20 years," Rogers said. "There's a little more gray, but not much different physically."

D-backs end 14-game skid; Pettitte ailing again

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Luis Gonzalez and the Arizona Diamondbacks finally have something to feel good about.

The Houston Astros, however, are worried about Andy Pettitte's elbow again.

The Diamondbacks snapped their club-record 14-game losing streak Monday night, beating Houston 4-1 behind Brandon Webb's pitching and Scott Hairston's hitting.

"It's been stressful. We're major leaguers and we don't like being embarrassed. It's been a long time," Gonzalez said. "Anytime you lose 14 games in a row it's not fun. We all made mistakes and we all shared in the frustration. None of us wanted to be embarrassed by losing any more games."

Pettitte came out after the fifth inning because of his troublesome left elbow, which has sent him to the disabled list twice this

season.

"I aggravated it again a little bit. We're going to see how it feels the next couple of days and hopefully I'll be able to make my next start," Pettitte said. "It's the same thing, the flexor tendon in my elbow, but it's not as bad as it was before. I threw a backdoor cutter to [Alex] Cinton in the fourth and that is when I first felt it."

Pettitte (6-4) gave up three hits, including consecutive homers to Hairston and Gonzalez in the first inning. The left-hander struck out four and walked none before leaving with a sore elbow.

Pettitte was on the disabled list April 7-29 with a left elbow strain and again from May 27 to June 28 with a left forearm strain.

He's been limited to just 13 starts since signing with Houston in the offseason.

"I really felt good after those home runs. I was really putting it where I wanted to. I think I'll be able to make my next start. We are at a point where I need to



Arizona Diamondbacks' Chad Tracy (18), Greg Aquino, center, and Juan Brito celebrate their 4-1 victory over the Houston Astros on Monday. It was Arizona's first victory since beating San Francisco on July 8.

pitch," Pettitte said.

Pettitte will be examined by a doctor Tuesday to determine the extent of the injury.

"He said that he felt something

when we came out to talk to him in the fifth, but he said he thought he could get through the inning. We didn't want him to push it. He probably could have gone back

out," Houston manager Phil Garner said. "I know he has had trouble with it in the past, but let's wait and see what the doctor says."

The Diamondbacks won for the first time since beating San Francisco on July 8, Arizona, which went 0-11 on a homestand that ended Sunday, improved to 5-30 since June 18.

"Everybody has been playing hard. It would be different if we had just been throwing our gloves out there," Hairston said.

"It's tough to swallow losing 14 in a row, but tonight we put it all together."

Webb (4-11) ended his six-game losing streak, holding Houston to one run and six hits in 7 1/3 innings. He threw a season-high 124 pitches, striking out five and walking four.

"Tonight it seemed like I got stronger each inning. Now maybe we can get back on track," Webb said.

Five in a row for Expos

The Associated Press

MONTREAL — Tony Batista and the Montreal Expos have finally got their bats going.

Batista had four hits and a career-high six RBIs to help Montreal extend its season-high winning streak to five with a 19-10 victory over the New York Mets on Monday night.

"I feel lucky," said Batista, who is 5-for-9 with two homers and nine RBIs in his last two games. "I hope I can continue driving in a lot of runs and keep winning."

Jose Vidro hit a three-run homer to spark a seven-run outburst in the third. Brad Wilkerson had three hits, including two in Montreal's second-biggest inning of the season, and Orlando Cabrera doubled twice and had three RBIs for Montreal, which also scored four in the fourth to build a 12-4 lead.

The Expos haven't won five in a row since Aug. 24-28. Their biggest win was a 21-9 victory in Colorado on April 28, 1996. Ron Calkins and Tony Batista hit two-run homers. Montreal tied a season high with 18 hits.

St. Louis widens gap in Central

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Anyone a game comes down to one clutch hit, the St. Louis Cardinals seem to get it.

Tony Womack singled with the bases loaded in the 11th inning

Monday night, sparking a four-run rally for a 9-6 victory over the fading Cincinnati Reds.

St. Louis came from behind twice to send it to extra innings, then sent nine batters to the plate in the 11th to hold onto its 10-game lead in the NL Central and the best overall record in the majors.

"It's whoever had the last hero," manager Tony La Russa said.

This time, it was Womack, who didn't start the game and was in a 2-for-34 slump when he singled off John Riedling to snap a 5-all tie.

"I've been confident even without getting hits," Womack said. The Reds lost their sixth in a row — not the way they wanted to start a homestand that could very well determine their season. They blew a pair of leads and fell to 5-6 for the first time since May 13.

Much of the damage has been inflicted by the Cardinals, who have won nine of 11 against the Reds this season.

"They've got a great team," first baseman Sean Casey said. "Everything you want to be, they have. We've just got to find a way to win."

Last year, the Reds found ways to pull out games. They swept a four-game series from the Cardinals in May last year, two of them on game-ending homers followed by on-field celebration.

"We're getting a taste of what we felt last year," Cardinals starter Woody Williams said. "We



So Taguchi drives in a run with a sacrifice fly for St. Louis in the 11th inning on Monday. The Cardinals beat the Reds 9-6.

had to watch those guys bounce at that plate."

There were six homers in all Monday, matching the ballpark record. Ultimately, it was decided on a routine fly.

Jim Edmonds led off the 11th with a four-pitch walk from Phil Norton (1-3), who couldn't throw a strike to the only batter he faced. After John Mabry singled off Riedling, right fielder Wily Mo Pena let Mike Matheny's fly defect off the heel of his glove for an error, loading the bases.

"The ball just hit like that," Pena said, showing where it went off his glove. "It can happen to anybody. Tonight, it happened to me."

That was all the help St. Louis needed.

Womack's single snapped the tie, and So Taguchi followed with a sacrifice fly. Edgar Renteria completed the rally with a two-run single.

Ray King (4-1) retired Sean Casey to end the 10th, keeping the NL Central leaders in line for yet another extra-inning win. The Cardinals are 7-1 in extra innings this season.

Dodgers 9, Rockies 7: Milton Bradley broke out of a slump with three RBIs, and Adrian Beltré hit his 28th homer in Los Angeles' ninth straight road victory.

Jose Hernandez also homered for the NL West-leading Dodgers, who won for the 18th time in 21 games overall. Eric Gagne got his 28th save in 30 chances.

Padres 3, Giants 2: At San Diego, Jalen Peavy didn't allow a hit until the sixth inning, and Barry Bonds was thrown out at the plate trying to score the tying run in the eighth on a grounder to second.

Brian Glavin's seventh-inning sacrifice fly put the Padres ahead 3-2. Trevor Hoffman got his 27th save. Bonds walked four times.

Braves 4, Pirates 2: Jarret Wright (8-5) and four Atlanta relievers shut down the Pirates in what might have been Kris Benson's last start at Pittsburgh as a member of the Pirates.

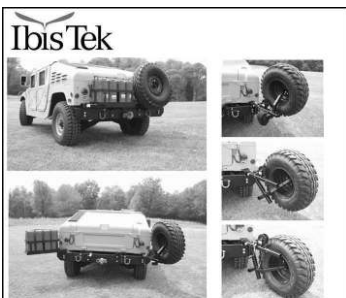
J.D. Drew ran his hitting streak to 22 games with a single in Atlanta's go-ahead fourth inning against Benson (8-5), expected to be dealt by Saturday's deadline for trading without waivers. John Smoltz earned his 22nd save.

Marlins 11, Phillies 3: Jeff Conine hit a three-run double, and A.J. Burnett (2-5) beat Kevin Millwood (8-6).

The Phillies have lost 11 consecutive games in Miami, including four this year. They're 1-8 against the Marlins this season and 16-31 the past three years. Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer for Florida.

Cubs 3, Brewers 1: Matt Clemen (8-9) beat Victor Santos (9-5) by hitting a fly since June 18, and Mark Grudzielanek had two RBIs for the Cubs in Milwaukee.

The Brewers, 3-9 since the All-Star break, were 0-for-10 with runners in scoring position. Derek Lee homered for the Cubs, and LaTroy Hawkins earned his 14th save.



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Trenton Hassell, right, with Portland General Manager John Nash, signed an offer sheet reportedly worth \$27 million over three years.

Wolves' Hassell signs Portland's offer sheet

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Trenton Hassell signed an offer sheet with the Portland Trail Blazers on Monday, giving Minnesota 15 days to decide whether it wants to match the offer and keep the restricted free agent.

The Blazers did not disclose terms, but Hassell's agent, Mark Bartelstein, said it was worth \$27 million over six years.

"They have to sort it out, and frankly the clock won't start ticking until they see the offer sheet, which will be tomorrow," Trail Blazers General Manager John Nash said Monday. "Obviously, they don't want to lose a player like Trent Hassell, but on the other hand they have to address what's best for them."

Hassell started 74 games for Minnesota last season after two seasons with the Chicago Bulls, who picked him in the second round of the 2001 draft.

Defense is the 6-foot-5 guard's specialty.

"There's a lot of scorers in this league, but there's not a lot of people... who are willing to sacrifice and play defense," Hassell said. "When I first started out I had no choice — that was the only way I was going to get to play. So I kind of got a reputation and I did well at it."

Blazers coach Maurice Cheeks said Hassell is just what the Blazers need.

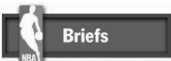
"It makes our defense a lot better. I think that's what we need to win ballgames," Cheeks said.

Hassell averaged 5.0 points, 3.2 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game while shooting 46.5 percent from the field and 78.7 percent from the free throw line for the Timberwolves during the regular season. He averaged 7.7 points, 2.4 rebounds and 1.4 assists in Minnesota's 18 playoff games.

Mavericks send Fortson to Sonics for Booth

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks traded power forward Danny Fortson to the Seattle SuperSonics for Calvin Booth, bringing back the 7-footer they once thought might solve their woes at center.

The deal seems a good fit for both clubs. Dallas is focused on improving its defense and Booth is an excellent shot-blocker. The Sonics were the NBA's worst rebounding team last season and Fortson has twice been among the league's



best in that category. Their salaries also were nearly identical, with both of their contracts running through the 2006-07 season.

"Calvin wanted and needed a change of address and I think Danny did too," Seattle coach Nate McMillan said.

Booth came to Dallas with Juwan Howard at the trade deadline in 2001. He played well in the final 15 regular-season games, then in the playoffs hit one of the most memorable shots in team history — a short jumper with 9.8 seconds left that won a first-round series over Utah. The Mavericks had trailed 0-2 in that best-of-five series and were down 17 late in that game.

"When he was with the Mavs, it was probably his best year as a pro," said Donnie Nelson, Dallas' president of basketball operations. "We're happy to recapture some of that magic."

Dallas had hoped to re-sign Booth that offseason, but Seattle offered more than the Mavericks could. He never lived up to expectations with the Sonics, partly because of injuries and a shift in the team's style.

Booth never averaged more than 6.2 points, 3.9 rebounds and 18.6 minutes, while missing 113 games.

He played 71 games last season, starting 35. He averaged 4.9 points and 3.9 rebounds, and led the team with 1.42 blocks.

Fortson was acquired last summer along with Antawn Jamison for Nick Van Exel. The burly rebounding specialist was never able to stay in coach Don Nelson's rotation.

Fortson averaged just 11.2 minutes over 56 games, with 3.9 points and 4.5 rebounds per game. He was fourth in the NBA in rebounding in the 1998-99 and 2001-02 seasons.

Bobcats sign Okafor

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte Bobcats have signed Emeka Okafor, getting the No. 2 overall pick under contract before he leaves for Greece to play for the U.S. Olympic team.

Okafor signed the three-year deal worth about \$10 million on Monday.

Judge might release transcripts of Bryant accuser's sexual life

Seven news organizations mistakenly received documents; Supreme Court urges full disclosure

BY JON SARCHÉ

The Associated Press

DENVER — Under pressure from the U.S. Supreme Court, the judge in the Kobe Bryant sexual assault case indicated Tuesday he may release edited copies of transcripts from a closed-door hearing that were digitally e-mailed to reporters.

District Judge Terry Ruckriegle ordered prosecutors and defense attorneys to work together on proposed deletions and submit a document to him by late Tuesday afternoon.

He did not indicate whether or when he would release the edited documents from a June hearing at the center of a First Amendment legal fight.

The order came less than a day after U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer rejected a media request to overturn Ruckriegle's order threatening contempt of court for any news organization that releases the transcripts, which include discussion of the accuser's sex life.

The documents were mistakenly sent to seven news organizations, including The Associated Press. None has published the details, but they contend Ruckriegle's order barring them from doing so is an unconstitutional restraint of a free press.

Breyer said the news organizations could refile their appeal as early as Wednesday and he hinted that Ruckriegle should act.

"I recognize the importance of the constitutional interests at issue," Breyer wrote. "But a brief delay will permit the state courts to clarify, perhaps avoid, the controversy at issue here."

Bryant, 25, has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault. He has said he had consensual sex with the woman, then 19, in the June 30, 2003, encounter.

Breyer noted that a key evidentiary ruling last week may make the court fight moot. Ruckriegle has decided to allow the accuser's sex life in the three days before her July 1, 2003, hospital exam to be admitted as evidence so the defense can argue that her injuries could have been caused by sex with someone other than Bryant.

The judge has not released details of what will be allowed as evidence. But the First Amendment fight centers on a hearing at which the woman's sexual activities and money received from a state victims' compensation fund were at issue.

Bryant's attorneys argue that injuries and DNA evidence found on the woman during the hospital examination, 15 hours after the alleged attack, could have come from partners other than Bryant, including one after she left Bryant and before she contacted authorities. Her attorney, John Clune, has denied she had sex with anyone during that 15 hours.

The defense also has argued the woman might have received unusually large amounts of money from a state victims' compensation fund as an incentive to participate in the case.

If convicted, the Los Angeles Lakers guard faces four years in life in prison or 20 years in life on probation, and a fine up to \$750,000. His trial begins Aug. 27.

Ruckriegle extended the deadline for a plea deal to Wednesday.

The woman's attorneys, Lin Wood and Clune, met Tuesday to discuss the case. Wood said the talks would include Ruckriegle's recent ruling on the evidence, but he would not give specifics.

Besides the AP, organizations involved in the transcripts case are The Denver Post, the Los Angeles Times, CBS, Fox News, ESPN and the television show "Celebrity Justice."

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Subpoena threat makes Fulmer skip SEC media days

BY ELIZABETH A. DAVIS

The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee football coach Phillip Fulmer will not attend this week's Southeastern Conference media days after learning that attorneys in a lawsuit against the NCAA plan to subpoena him at the event in Alabama.

Attorneys representing a former Alabama assistant coach have accused Fulmer of conspiring with the NCAA in bringing down the Crimson Tide football program by speaking to an NCAA investigator four years ago. Alabama was placed on probation in 2002 after the NCAA uncovered recruiting violations that included payments to players from boosters.

"I am not attending media days because of the legal circus that has been created by an isolated group of attorneys. They want to hijack media days for their own benefit, but I am not going to allow that to happen," Fulmer said in a statement Monday. "This day is for the players. They should be center stage instead of this small group of lawyers who intend on attacking the integrity

Rift stems from Alabama's lawsuit vs. NCAA

of the NCAA's enforcement process."

University president John Petersen and athletic director Mike Hamilton defended their decision to protect Fulmer from an onslaught of media attention and the threat of being served a subpoena.

"I don't think this is tucking and running," Hamilton said during a news conference on Monday.

One of the attorneys notified SEC Commissioner Mike Slive that Fulmer would be issued a subpoena at media days if the coach did not agree to give a deposition, the Tuscaloosa News reported Monday on its Web site.

Fulmer will be fined \$10,000 by the SEC for not attending media days, but will be available to reporters Thursday by telephone. Big Ten conference spokesman said no reference during the time he was supposed



Fulmer

to appear in person.

Players Michael Munoz and Kevin Burnett will attend as scheduled.

Petersen tried to persuade Slive not to fine Fulmer.

"I think we will potentially avert something that would not be in the best interest of the NCAA, the conference or the coach of the University of Tennessee," Petersen said.

Tennessee officials voiced their concern last week about Fulmer's safety in Birmingham while meeting with reporters at the annual SEC event. Fulmer was scheduled to appear the same day Alabama coach Mike Shula and two players are on the agenda.

Media days is held in a hotel and many fans, mostly of Alabama — go to watch the players and coaches.

In 2000, Fulmer was interviewed three times by an NCAA investigator looking into possible recruiting violations at Alabama. Other coaches from the SEC and the Big Ten conference also spoke to investigators, according to NCAA documents. Some,

including Fulmer, also testified before a grand jury in Memphis that indicted Alabama booster Logan Young, who allegedly paid \$150,000 to steer prospect Albert Means to Alabama in 1999.

Attorney Tommy Gallion and his colleagues, who are representing former Tide coach Ronnie Cottrell in a lawsuit against the NCAA, have alleged Fulmer provided information to the NCAA in exchange for the NCAA overlooking violations at Tennessee.

Fulmer has defended his actions in the past, but had not said much at length publicly about it until Monday's statement.

"When you get behind all the smoke and the big pile of lawsuits, the truth still stands: rules were broken, an investigation proved it, those who broke the rules admitted their guilt, and a university paid the price. There are a few people who cannot accept the truth, so they file lawsuits hoping the truth will go away," Fulmer said.

"As one of several coaches contacted by the NCAA regarding these serious violations by a small group of boosters, my response was to do the right thing, my code of conduct, and the right thing to do."

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ACC teams like league's new look

BY AARON BEARD

The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The rest of the Atlantic Coast Conference hardly sounds intimidated by the prospect of facing league newcomers Miami and Virginia Tech.

"I think it brings another level of play," North Carolina State wide receiver Traquan Hall said at the ACC Football Kickoff on Sunday. "We had athletes already in the league, but they're bringing some better athletes and a lot more speed."

"But my thing is they put their pads on just like we put ours on. There ain't no reason to go out there and fear them."

The two schools officially joined the ACC on July 1, leaving the Big East conference in a contentious process that ended last summer. Boston College will become the ACC's 12th member next year, giving the league the number of teams required for a lucrative conference title game.

The ambitious plan by ACC Commissioner John Swofford was designed to make the league — known as a basketball conference — the nation's best in football.

Several players at the preseason event Sunday said the league had become just that.

In fact, Florida State wide receiver Craphonso Thorne joked that he'd like to play a schedule of only ACC opponents.

"That would be perfectly fine with me," Thorne

said. "I feel like the ACC is, if not the best conference, it's one of the best. That's great to hear. Why should you have to go outside your conference when you have the talent right here?"

The league gets two of the nation's most successful programs in the past five years in Miami and Virginia Tech. The Hurricanes have won 55 games and a national championship, while playing two title games during that time.

The Hokies, meanwhile, won 48 games and reached the title game in 1999.

"They'll now compete with conference power Florida State, which has won 11 ACC titles and two national championships in the 12 seasons since joining the league. In addition, Clemson, Maryland, Virginia and N.C. State are coming off victories in bowl games."

"It makes it tougher with more competition in the league," Maryland cornerback Dominique Foxworth said. "But it's good, because there's more respect for it."

On Monday, ACC media members picked Florida State to win the conference. The Seminoles got 49 first-place votes from an 88-member panel, edging Miami by 12 points.

Florida State coach Bobby Bowden was unfazed. "Nobody does the preseason better than me," joked Bowden, the winningest coach in Division I-A with 342 victories. "I am the preseason champ. I haven't got a trophy to show for it yet."

Florida State and Miami play on Labor Day in Miami's Orange Bowl.

Preseason poll

Selected by an 88-member media panel at the ACC Football Kickoff on Monday, the Number 1 pick in this thesis is first-place votes.

1. Florida State (49)
2. Miami (38)
3. Virginia (2)
4. Clemson (1)
5. Maryland (1)
6. Virginia Tech (7)
7. N.C. State (8)
8. Georgia Tech (9)
9. Wake Forest (10)
10. North Carolina (11)
11. Duke (12)

Miami to admit troubled recruit Williams

BY TIM REYNOLDS

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Miami will admit troubled recruit Willie Williams, but will impose tough conditions on the star linebacker who has a lengthy arrest record the school was unaware of when it offered him a scholarship.

In a letter announcing the decision, university president Donna Shalala said the school has "placed the bar high" for Williams, considered the top high school linebacker by many recruiting services.

"There will be academic conditions that he must meet to play football at Miami," Shalala wrote in the letter released to the campus community Tuesday. "Addi-

tionally, he will participate in a program that we provide for all athletes that provides mentoring, constructive counseling and monitoring of their behavior — both on and off campus."

Athletic director Paul Dee and coach Larry Cook scheduled a news conference on Tuesday, with Williams expected to attend.

The 6-foot-2, 225-pound Williams pleaded no contest earlier this summer in two separate episodes that occurred in Gainesville during his official visit to Florida, one of his many pursuers. He faced a felony count of setting off fire extinguishers at his hotel and a misdemeanor battery charge for hugging a woman without consent.

Each plea resulted in a year's

probation being levied against Williams, whose arrest record dates back to 1999, mainly for theft and burglary. What happened in Gainesville could have sent Williams to jail for a year; he was already on probation for a 2002 felony burglary charge.

A University of Miami panel ultimately recommended that the school admit the Parade All-American.

"They brought broad experience in reading complicated admissions applications, which in this case revealed a more accurate picture of a young man than what you have read to," Shalala wrote.

Williams' arrest record and the complaints levied against him in Gainesville were revealed Feb. 4, the same day Williams signed his letter of intent to enroll at Miami.

Redskins, No. 1 pick Taylor agree to seven-year deal

The Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — The Washington Redskins agreed to a seven-year, \$18 million deal with first-round draft pick Sean Taylor, officials said.

After late night negotiations, Taylor was on a flight to Washington Tuesday morning to sign to his contract, according to agent Jeff Moorad.

"We agreed to terms as the clock struck midnight," Moorad said.

A Redskins official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, confirmed the agreement and said the team would likely hold a news conference later Tuesday.

The amount of the contract was confirmed by a party involved in the negotiations, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the deal had not yet been signed. The source said Taylor will receive a \$7.2 million signing bonus, and that the total bonus in the deal — including option and roster bonuses — exceeds \$13 million.

The source also said the contract has escalators that can make the deal worth up to \$40 million over six years, while the seventh year can be voided. The escalators are based on three conditions over time, including performance and Pro Bowl or All-Pro selections.

Taylor, the No. 5 overall pick, is expected to be Washington's opening day starter at cornerback.

Taylor will join the team during its three-day "passing camp," which began Monday.

49ers' contract talks with Peterson are in a stalemate

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The San Francisco 49ers' contract talks with All-Pro linebacker Julian Peterson are in a stalemate, and he is expected to hold out when training camp opens Friday.

The 49ers are preparing for life without their two-time Pro Bowler while clinging to hope he'll accept their contract proposal or a one-year franchise tender offer that would cost quickly become a nasty holdout.

Peterson skipped the 49ers' minicamps to protest his negotiations with the club. He hasn't been in regular contact with the team since San Francisco designated him as the franchise player in February.

General Manager Terry Donahue hasn't even spoken to Peterson's agent, Kevin Poston, since the spring. The 49ers don't intend to budge from their offer of a one-year, \$3.7 million contract with a \$5.5 million first-year salary and a \$15.5 million signing bonus, which would make Peterson one of the highest-paid linebackers in NFL history.

Jets sign No. 1 pick Vilma

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — The New York Jets signed their first-round draft choice Jonathan Vilma on Tuesday, two days before the team opens camp.

NFL Briefs

Vilma, a linebacker from Miami, is expected to compete for a starting job with veteran Sam Cowart, who has been switched to the inside after playing outside last season.

Vilma, the 12th overall pick in the draft, is the sixth of 32 first-round choices to sign.

Pats LB Colvin reportedly not ready for start of camp

FOXBORO, Mass. — New England Patriots linebacker Roosevelt Colvin, who missed most of last year with a broken left hip, was placed on the team's physical unable to perform list, the Boston Herald reported Tuesday.

The move means Colvin, who injured his hip in the second game of last season, will not practice in pads or take part in crowd drills when the defending Super Bowl champions begin training camp Thursday at Gillette Stadium. It does not, however, mean that Colvin will miss regular-season games.

The linebacker was placed on the active physically unable to perform list, rather than the reserve physically unable to perform list. Had he been placed on the reserve list, he would have been ineligible to practice or play for the first six games of the regular season.

Players may be taken off the active physically unable to perform list at any point of training camp.

Woodson will have surgery, miss Cowboys training camp

IRVING, Texas — Dallas Cowboys safety Darren Woodson will have surgery on his injured back Tuesday. He will miss all of training camp and probably the start of the regular season.

The 35-year-old Woodson visited a doctor Monday, and the decision was made to perform surgery to remove a herniated disk. He will be sidelined six to eight weeks, a period that extends past the Cowboys' regular-season opener Sept. 12 at Minnesota.

Woodson, going into his 13th season, is the team's career tackles leader with 1,350 and the only remaining player who was part of all three Super Bowl wins by the Cowboys in the 1990s.

Also on Monday, receiver Antonio Bryant met with coach Bill Parcells at team owner Jerry Jones to clear the air between them prior to the start of training camp after Bryant threw his jersey at Parcells last month during a minicamp.

"He's getting another opportunity," Jones said. "I certainly believe if your heart is in the right place, you should have second chances."

DT Russell suspended again

NEW YORK — Defensive back-

Training camp dates

Rookie and veteran reporting dates (Dates subject to change)

BALTIMORE RAVENS—Michigan College, Westminster, Md., both July 29.
BUFFALO BILLS—St. John Fisher College, Pittsford, N.Y., both July 29.
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky., both July 29.
CLEVELAND BRONCOS—Browns Training Facility, Berea, Ohio, both July 29.
DENVER BRONCOS—Paul D. Bowler McCenter, Englewood, Colo., both July 29.

HOUSTON TEXANS—Texans Practice Facility, Houston, both July 30.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Hoosier Memorial Institute, Terre Haute, Ind., both Aug. 1.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Gillette Stadium, Jacksonville Fla., both July 30.
NEW YORK JETS—MetLife U.S. Bank Center, New York City, both July 30.

NEW YORK GIANTS—MetLife U.S. Bank Center, New York City, both July 30.
OAKLAND RAIDERS—Napa Valley Marriott, Napa, Calif., July 29-30.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Pittsburgh College, Latrobe, Pa., both July 30.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—CS Dominguez Hills, Carson, Calif., both July 30.
TENNESSEE TITANS—Baudett Sports Park, Nashville, Tenn., both July 30.

WFO CAROLINA CARDINALS—Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Ariz., both July 29.
ATLANTA FALCONS—Furness U. Green, N.Y., both July 29.

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Worford College, N.Y., both July 29.

CHICAGO BEARS—Olivet Nazarene University, Decatur, Ill., both July 29.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Marriott Resort, Dallas, both July 29-30.

DETROIT LIONS—Lions Training Facility, Farmington Hills, Mich., both July 29-30.

GREEN BAY PACKERS—St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wis., both July 29-30.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Minnesota State University, Moorhead, Minn., both July 29-30.

NEW ENGLAND SLANTS—Saints Complex, Metairie, La., both July 29-30.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Lehigh U., Bethlehem, Pa., July 27-30.

ST. LOUIS RAMS—West Illinois U., Macomb, Ill., July 27-30.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS—St. Johns College, Santa Clara, Calif., July 29-30.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Washington State University, Pullman, Wash., both July 29-30.

CAMP WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Redskins Park, Ashburn, Va., both July 30.

le Darrell Russell, released two weeks ago by Tampa Bay, has been suspended indefinitely by the NFL after testing positive for drugs.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the troubled former Pro Bowler, the second overall pick in the 1997 draft, can apply for reinstatement after eight games if he is signed by a team.

Tampa Bay signed Russell in March hoping to give him a chance to repeat the success he had before off-field problems derailed his career.

Russell spent part of last season with the Washington Redskins after he was reinstated by the NFL following a 1½-year suspension for a second violation of the league's substance abuse policy.

Texas safety sentenced on drunken driving conviction

HOUSTON — A judge sentenced Houston Texans safety Marcus Coleman to three days in jail and a \$2,000 fine Tuesday, a day after a jury convicted him of a third-degree drunken driving charge.

Coleman, 30, faced up to six months in jail. He crashed his new car in May after leaving a bar. He was alone in the vehicle and wasn't hurt in the minor one-car wreck.



Eagles coach Andy Reid threw out the first pitch at the Philadelphia Phillies game on Saturday. Now his attention is solely on football.

Once again, Eagles eyeing Super Bowl

BY ROB MAADDI

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Nothing less than a trip to the Super Bowl will be considered a success for the Philadelphia Eagles this year.

Sound familiar? It was the same theme heading into training camp the past two seasons.

After losing the NFC championship game for the third consecutive year, the Eagles had an exciting offseason, adding star wide receiver Terrell Owens and defensive end Jevon Kearse and bringing in linebacker Jeremiah Trotter back to Philadelphia.

Now, they really have no more excuses if they fall short.

Training camp opened Tuesday with rookies and selected veterans reporting to Lehigh University. Veterans are due in Friday, and the team's first practice is Sunday.

The Eagles finished 12-4 last season after going 0-2. They secured the No. 1 seed in the NFC for the second year in a row, but again couldn't take advantage of playing at home in the playoffs.

Expectations again are high, despite the loss of cornerbacks Troy Vincent, a five-time Pro Bowl selection, and Bobby Taylor, who went to the Pro Bowl two years ago. Running back Duce Staley, a three-time, 1,000-yard rusher, and linebacker Carlos Emmons, the team's defensive MVP last season, also left through free agency.

But the additions of Owens, Kearse, Trotter and linebacker Dhanai Jones put the Eagles in a position to win a fourth straight NFC East title and challenge for the conference championship.

Owens, a four-time Pro Bowl player with the San Francisco 49ers, gives quarterback Donovan McNabb the No. 1 target he's desperately needed. In the season-ending 14-3 loss to the Carolina Panthers last January, starting receivers James Thrash and Todd Pinkston combined for one catch.

McNabb rebounded from a poor start to throw for 3,216

yards, 16 TDs and 11 interceptions. He also ran for 355 yards and three scores, earning his fourth consecutive trip to the Pro Bowl.

Owens should improve McNabb's numbers, but it will be interesting to see how well the outspoken receiver fits into Andy Reid's balanced offensive scheme. Owens wasn't happy whenever 49ers quarterback Eric Garcia didn't throw his way, and didn't hold back in his criticism of San Francisco's offensive coordinator.

Likewise, the subtraction of Vincent and Emmons, locker room leaders, could change the chemistry.

Kearse, a three-time Pro Bowl selection with the Tennessee Titans, gives the Eagles the pass rusher they have lacked since the departure of Hugh Douglas. Starting defensive ends N.D. Kalu and Brandon Whiting combined for 7½ sacks last season. Kearse had 9½ himself, despite missing three games to injury.

The loss of Staley will affect the Eagles' three-headed rushing attack. Staley, Correll Buckhalter and Brian Westbrook shared the running duties last year, combining for 1,818 yards rushing, 83 catches and 27 touchdowns (20 rushing, seven receiving).

Emmons' departure was offset by the signing of Jones, who will start at strongside linebacker in what was essentially a trade — like when the Giants traded pick Shane Andrews, who is expected to start at right guard. Andrews, however, remained unsigned on 2000-01, begins camp behind Mark Simonen.

Third-year pro Lito Sheppard and Sheldon Brown will replace Vincent and Taylor. Other new faces include first-round pick Shane Andrews, who is expected to start at right guard. Andrews, however, remained unsigned on 2000-01, begins camp behind Mark Simonen. Only running back Bruce Perry, two other seventh-round selections and sixth-round picks Dexter Wynn and Andy Hall have signed. Wynn and Hall each signed four-year deals on Monday.



THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION/AP

Amare Stoudemire dunks during Team USA's practice on Monday. Despite the team's youth, Carmelo Anthony promised a gold medal.

Anthony guarantees gold as U.S. team opens camp

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN
The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — With little provocation, Carmelo Anthony made a bold statement on the first day of practice with the U.S. Olympic basketball team.

"We're guaranteeing a gold medal. We're bringing it back," Anthony predicted.

That statement might be viewed as a youthful indiscretion coming from a player who just turned 20 and is about to embark on a journey with the youngest U.S. team (average age, 23.6) since the Americans started sending pros to the Olympics in 1992.

It also seemed at odds with one of the main messages the Ameri-

U.S. men's basketball Olympics schedule

Sunday, Aug. 15
Puerto Rico vs. United States, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 17
United States vs. Greece, 9:15 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 19
United States vs. Australia, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 21
Lithuania vs. United States, 7 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 23
United States vs. Angola, 1:30 p.m.
— Times are Central European

can coaching staff tried to get across at the team's welcome dinner Sunday night: Respect the competition.

"That's just a young kid saying that," coach Larry Brown said. "But as long as he respects the people we're playing against and

understands how good they've got, I don't have any problem with that."

Anthony is the second-youngest member of a team that includes three players — Anthony, LeBron James and Dwyane Wade — coming off their rookie NBA seasons, along with rookie-to-be Emeka Okafor.

The Denver star was asked how he thought his guarantee would be received by other teams in the Olympics, including three that defeated the Americans two years ago at the World Championships.

"I guess that's going to make the games more fun," Anthony said. "Right now, teams are not scared of us no more. Why not hype the games up? It's the Olympics. We're having fun, man. We've got to go over there and win."

Brown held two-a-day practices Monday and Tuesday in an effort to get the players acquainted with one another. Only three of them, Allen Iverson, Tim Duncan and Richard Jefferson, remain from the U.S. team that won the Tournament of the Americas last summer to qualify for a spot in the 12-team Athens field.

"We've got a lot of teaching to do. If we would have had the nucleus of the guys from last summer, that wouldn't have been necessary," said Brown, who also lamented a shortage of preparation time.

From the looks of things Monday during a portion of practice that was open to the media, Brown has plenty of work ahead to get his team to conform to his mantra of "playing the right way."

"One pass and a shot, we can't do that!" Brown yelled at Amare Stoudemire after he changed a mid-range jumper early in a possession during a four-on-four drill.

"I've got to reprogram you guys!" Brown yelled, unhappy with the level of intensity he was seeing on the defensive end.

"If Allen [Iverson] makes a free throw you don't have to run," Brown offered.

One clanged foul shot later, it was wind sprints for everyone.

Iverson, now a co-captain along with Tim Duncan, seemed at himself when he missed the pressure shot. It was not the type of leadership moment that the team's oldest member (29) wanted to show his teammates and the man who coached him for six seasons in Philadelphia.

"I never know how much something means to me until it's gone, and that's how I am with coach Brown," Iverson said.

One of the challenges for the coaching staff will be educating the youngsters about the intricacies of international basketball.

After the players responded with shock to a foul call, Popovich took it as an opportunity to impart a lesson: The quality and objectivity of the refereeing will not be what these players are accustomed to in the NBA.

"Let's remember we just made the worst call in America," Popovich told the team. "Get used to it."

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SPORTS



Can WR Owens, DE Kearse give Eagles long-awaited push into Super Bowl? Page 30



Texas Rangers pitcher Kenny Rogers, above, is tied with the Oakland Athletics' Mark Mulder for the most wins in the majors (13). The 39-year-old left-hander has evolved from a hard-throwing reliever to a finesse pitcher in 16 seasons, going 39-19 in his past 85 starts.

10 years of tenacity

A decade after his perfect game, Rangers' Rogers still tough to beat

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas
Kenny Rogers was perfect, yet he didn't even realize it.

Sure, the Texas Rangers left-hander knew he hadn't allowed a hit that July night 10 years ago. What Rogers didn't know was that he had just thrown a perfect game — or even what one was.

"I had no idea," Rogers recalled this month. "I was not kidding about that, not knowing and understanding and comprehending what kind of game it was, and how so few times it had been accomplished."

There have been only three perfect games since Rogers' feat at home against the Angels on July 28, 1994 — a span of about 24,000 major league games. The latest was Arizona's Randy Johnson retiring all 27 Atlanta batters he faced in May at age 40, the oldest pitcher to throw a perfect game and a year older than Rogers is now.

The anniversary of the first perfect game by an AL left-hander is Wednesday, when Rogers (13-3) is scheduled to pitch at Anaheim.

"Maybe we'll get another one," Rogers said. "You never know."

A decade older and slower, Rogers isn't throwing pitches past batters anymore like Johnson still can. But he's still getting them out, an All-Star whose 13 wins are tied with Oakland's Mark Mulder for the most in the major leagues.

"He still has great stuff, even though he's like 48 years old," Rangers catcher Rod Barajas said. "He's still able to go out there and keep these guys off balance and reach back and get 91, 92 (mph) every now and then. He's a smart guy."

Rogers has become a different pitcher over 16 major league seasons, far from the hard-throwing reliever who appeared in an AL-high 81 games in 1992. He's now a starter who relies more on groundballs than strikeouts, smarts over speed. He says he's figured out how to pitch.

Since missing the final 2½ months of the 2001 season — his only time on the disabled list — because of a circulatory problem caused by a rib pinching nerves and arteries, Rogers is 39-19 in 85 starts.

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Rogers, top left, is congratulated by Texas Rangers teammates Ivan Rodriguez (7) and Will Clark after throwing a perfect game against the California Angels in Arlington, Texas, on July 28, 1994. It was the first perfect game thrown by an AL left-hander.



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